

## **To follow up pain in the immediate postoperative period, using an elastomeric pump in anterior cruciate ligament surgery” Villalba et al (2017).**

Abstract:

**OBJECTIVE:** To follow up pain in the immediate postoperative period, using an elastomeric pump in anterior cruciate ligament surgery.

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**MATERIAL AND METHODS:** 309 patients who had undergone anterior cruciate ligament repair with bone-tendon-bone allograft. Pain control was assessed with a visual analogue scale (VAS) during the immediate postoperative period, in the postoperative care unit, in the recovery room, and after the first 24-48-72hours following home discharge. The need for rescue medication, adverse effects observed and emergency visits were also registered.

**RESULTS:** 309 patients were assessed (264 males, 45 females), mean age 33 (range: 18 - 55). Postoperative pain was mild in 44.7% of patients, and 38.5% were pain-free. At discharge, 41.1% of patients reported mild pain and 57% were pain-free. At home, mild to moderate levels of pain were maintained and over 97% of patients presented VAS values  $\leq$  3. Fewer than 3% had adverse effects, 8.7% had to use analgesic medication at some point. Pruritus occurred in less than 1% of patients receiving intravenous analgesia at home, and fewer than 2% had device-related complications.

**DISCUSSION:** There is no consensus regarding the postoperative management of anterior cruciate ligament lesions, although most surgeons use multimode anaesthesia and different combinations of analgesics to reduce postoperative pain.

**CONCLUSIONS:** The use of an intravenous elastomeric pump as postoperative analgesia for anterior cruciate ligamentoplasty has yielded good results.

Reference:



Villalba, J., Peñalver, J., Torner, P., Serra, M. and Planell, J. (2017) Home-based intravenous analgesia with elastomeric pump as an outpatient procedure for pain control after anterior cruciate ligament repair. Revista Española de Cirugía Ortopédica y Traumatología. November 25th. . .

doi: 10.1016/j.recot.2017.07.005.

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