## The Adolescent Surgery Experience: A Mixed Methods Analysis

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### **TABLE OF CONTENTS**



### **BACKGROUND: Headlines 2010-2014**

### Persistent Opioid Use Among Pediatric Patients After Surgery

Calista M. Harbaugh, MD,<sup>a</sup> Jay S. Lee, MD,<sup>a</sup> Hsou Mei Hu, PhD,<sup>b</sup> Sean Esteban McCabe, PhD,<sup>c</sup> Terri Voepel-Lewis. PhD. RN.<sup>d</sup> Michael J. Englesbe. MD.<sup>e</sup> Chad M. Brummett. MD.<sup>d</sup> Jennifer F. Waliee. MD. M<u>PH. N</u>

### Study: Half of pediatric opioid prescriptions are "high risk"

The top 5% of prescribers account for half of opioid prescriptions and high risk prescriptions to children and young adults.

Harbaugh CM, Lee JS, Hu HM, et al. Persistent Opioid Use Among Pediatric Patients After Surgery. *Pediatrics*. 2018;141(1):e20172439. doi:10.1542/peds.2017-2439c Mostafavi B. "Study: Half of pediatric opioid prescriptions are "high risk." *Michigan Health Lab*. Published August 16, 2021.

"New chronic opioid use - >3 months after surgery - was found in 4.8% of adolescents who received an opioid prescription after surgery (compared with 0.1% of those in the nonsurgical group)."



### **BACKGROUND: 2014 - Present**

Ten hospitals reduced opioid prescriptions for children who underwent appendectomy through a quality improvement initiative



**HEALTH & SCIENCE** 

# Unwise and unnecessary: Opioids for wisdom teeth extractions

**Science News** 

from research organizations

#### Opioid prescriptions for pediatric patients following surgical procedures have dropped significantly

Study suggests larger trend of moving away from routine opioid prescriptions after surgery

A Multi-Institutional Quality Improvement Project to Minimize Opioid Prescribing in Children after Appendectomy Using [ACS] NSQIP-Pediatric. Journal of American College of Surgeons. DOI: 10.1097/XCS.00000000000000056

Children's Hospital of Philadelphia. "Opioid prescriptions for pediatric patients following surgical procedures have dropped significantly: Study suggests larger trend of moving away from routine opioid prescriptions after surgery." ScienceDaily. April 4 2022.

Cohen R. "Unwise and unnecessary: Opioids for wisdom teeth extractions." Washington Post. March 3, 2019.

### **BACKGROUND: 2014 - Present (cont.)**



 Decline in opioid prescriptions between 2014-2019 within the 11-17 age group

Sutherland TN, Wunsch H, Newcomb C, Hadland SE, Gaskins L, Neuman MD. Trends in Routine Opioid Dispensing After Common Pediatric Surgeries in the United States: 2014-2019. *Pediatrics*. 2022;149(5):e2021054729. doi:10.1542/peds.2021-054729

### SIGNIFICANCE

While opioid prescriptions for young patients have declined in the past 7 years, what is still not fully understood is how and if pain experience and pain medication taken post surgery are associated with one another.



### **STUDY OBJECTIVES**



#### **PRIMARY OBJECTIVES**

- Characterize development of new chronic pain within the first 6 months post surgery
- Quantify the implications of postsurgical pain and pain treatment



#### **SECONDARY OBJECTIVES**

- Determine factors associated with prolonged opioid use after surgery compared to peers
- Characterize factors associated with delayed recovery (higher pain scores) from surgery compared to peers

### **STUDY POPULATION**

- Patients undergoing surgery at CHOP surgical sites
  - Ages 11-21
  - Without a prior history of chronic pain (pain >3 months)
  - Without prior history of opioid use (greater than 5-10 days)
  - English speaking
  - Emphasis on enrolling patients undergoing procedures associated with "severe" pain (i.e. spinal fusion, nuss bar insertion, abdominal surgery and reconstructive plastic surgery)

### **METHODS**



### **FUTURE DIRECTIONS**

#### • Data analysis

- Writing an abstract focused on a subset of CHOP patients undergoing oral-facial procedures
  - Extractions
  - Mandibular fractures/repairs
  - LeFort 1 Osteotomies

"A filled perioperative opioid prescription after wisdom tooth extraction was associated with highe odds of persistent opioid use among opioid-naive patients." -Harbaugh (2018)

Harbaugh CM, Nalliah RP, Hu HM, Englesbe MJ, Waljee JF, Brummett CM. Persistent Opioid Use After Wisdom Tooth Extraction. JAMA. 2018;320(5):504-506. doi:10.1001/jama.2018.9023

### HARBAUGH (cont.)

- Persistent opioid use occurred at an adjusted rate of 13 per 1000 patients with a filled opioid prescription
- Among 70942 patients who underwent wisdom tooth extraction, 56686 patients filled perioperative opioid prescription

### HARBAUGH (cont.)

- Dentists were the second-leading opioid prescribers for children and adolescents
- In 2018, the recommended standard of care shifted to combination acetaminophen and ibuprofen for acute dental pain

Harbaugh CM, Nalliah RP, Hu HM, Englesbe MJ, Waljee JF, Brummett CM. Persistent Opioid Use After Wisdom Tooth Extraction. *JAMA*. 2018;320(5):504-506. doi:10.1001/jama.2018.9023 Moore PA, Ziegler KM, Lipman RD, Aminoshariae A, Carrasco-Labra A, Mariotti A. Benefits and harms associated with analgesic medications used in the management of acute dental pain: An overview of systematic reviews *J Am Dent Assoc*. 2018;149(4):256-265.e3. doi:10.1016/j.adaj.2018.02.012

### PRELIMINARY DATA ANALYSIS

• None of the CHOP patients who underwent surgical tooth extraction were prescribed opioids/reported using opioids

• All of the CHOP patients undergoing surgical tooth extraction reported low pain scores post-operatively

• This is consistent with the Journal of the American Dental Association's 2018 recommendation of combining acetaminophen and ibuprofen as the standard of care for acute dental pain

Moore PA, Ziegler KM, Lipman RD, Aminoshariae A, Carrasco-Labra A, Mariotti A. Benefits and harms associated with analgesic medications used in the management of acute dental pain: An overview of systematic reviews J Am Dent Assoc. 2018;149(4):256-265.e3. doi:10.1016/j.adaj.2018.02.012

### **TAKEAWAYS**

- Exposure to clinical research
- Strengthened patient interaction skills within pediatric patient population
- Participated in collaboration across differing healthcare professions and students
- Gained further insight into hospital-based dentistry and anesthesia

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