RESEARCH POSTER SUBMISSION

Authors:
Naiyi Sun, MD, The Hospital for Sick Children
Kathryn Birnie, PhD, The Hospital for Sick Children
Fiona Campbell, MD, The Hospital for Sick Children
Jennifer Stinson, PhD, The Hospital for Sick Children

Poster Title
SYSTEMATIC REVIEW OF RISK FACTORS FOR CHRONIC POSTSURGICAL PAIN IN CHILDREN

Poster Abstract

Introduction/Aim:
Chronic postsurgical pain (CPSP) is defined as pain that develops after surgery and lasts for at least 2 months with other causes for pain excluded. CPSP in children leads to emotional suffering and negatively impacts all aspects of health-related quality of life. The purpose of this systematic review is to identify biopsychosocial risk factors for the development and maintenance of CPSP in children and assess the quality of supporting evidence.

Methods:
Relevant studies were identified by searching the electronic databases MEDLINE, EMBASE, CINAHL, PsychINFO and Web of Science by a librarian and references of included studies. Studies were included for the review if they met the following criteria: 1) inclusion of children and adolescents (0-18 years) undergoing any type of surgery; 2) assessment of pain at least 2 months after surgery; and 3) assessment of one or more potential risk factors for development of CPSP.

Results:
The search strategy generated a total of 1777 unique references. Twelve studies met the inclusion criteria and were reviewed in greater detail for analysis. Assessed risk factors associated with CPSP included child age, preoperative and acute postoperative pain, anxiety, pain catastrophizing, and parental catastrophizing.

Discussion/Conclusions:
Early identification of patients at risk for CPSP and awareness of the impact of psychological factors will allow for earlier intervention and potentially better pain outcomes. Due to the small number of current studies, there is a need for further larger scale well designed studies to investigate this topic.