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**Pain management after Ferguson Hemoroidectomy: A multiple comparison of pain management alternatives**

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**Running Title:** Pain management after Ferguson Hemoroidectomy

Dear Editor,

Pain management after Ferguson Hemoroidectomy is an important stage of surgical process. However, there have not been sufficient sources on outputs of past experiments which will be source for further applications. I wish to submit the manuscript to the journal for consideration.

There is no conflict of interest, and all authors have read and approved of the manuscript being submitted.

## **Pain management after Ferguson Hemoroidectomy: A multiple comparison of pain management alternatives**

### **Abstract**

**Objectives:** In this retrospective cross-sectional study, it was aimed to evaluate pain management after Ferguson Hemoroidectomy.

**Design&Setting:** 151 patients who underwent Ferguson Hemorrhoidectomy between June 2017 and July 2019 were retrospectively included in the study. Postop, 1<sup>st</sup> day and 1<sup>st</sup> week Visual Analog Scale (VAS) and follow up durations based on different pain management groups were compared.

**Results:** VAS level was highest in both groups on 1<sup>st</sup> day and 1<sup>st</sup> week in the group administered 150 mg pethidine (sc), and the difference was statistically significant ( $p<0.05$ ). In the group treated with 200 mg tramadol (iv) + 150 mg diclofenac sodium (im), the VAS level was the lowest on 1<sup>st</sup> day and 1<sup>st</sup> week. The highest VAS levels were in the local lidocaine group on 1<sup>st</sup> day and 1<sup>st</sup> week, whereas the lowest values were in the 150 mg diclofenac sodium (im) + 50 mg dexametoprolfen (oral) group.

**Conclusion:** There was four common pain management procedure during hospitalization, whereas six pain management procedures were cumulated after hospitalization. Results reveal that although there have been a unique pain management procedure or a guideline on pain management after Ferguson Hemoroidectomy, clinical research results may have contribution for effective pain management after Ferguson Hemoroidectomy.

**Key Words:** Pain, Ferguson Hemoroidectomy, hemorrhoid.

### **What is already known about this topic?**

It is known from both literature and clinical applications that pain management is a serious problem after Ferguson Hemoroidectomy, and some pain killer agents are combined together to provide best pain management. However, there have not been any literature research includes pain management experiences in order to provide a source for further researches and clinical applications.

### **What does this article add?**

Article adds literature a pioneer approach to the pain management by experiences and patient classifications, and a guide for clinical applications. In other areas of the pain and surgery, pain management experiences have been shared by clinicians, and developed by meta-analysis studies. However, it is a necessity in Ferguson Hemoroidectomy, and article provides a guide.

## **Introduction**

In health services, pain is an important and life quality decreasing factor for patients. Especially pain management becomes more important for surgical operations (1-5). During operations, in hospital and after hospital pain management procedures differ based on surgery type, clinic and demographic properties of patients and other related parameters (6-8). In addition, some medications used in pain management include opioids (9-12). Thus, pain management during and after surgery may be also seen as an issue for public health.

Ferguson Hemoroidectomy is one of the most pain complaints including surgery among others (13-15). During hospitalization and after discharge, pain management may be a serious problem for both patient and clinicians. Although there have been numerous painkillers and pain management procedures, there have not been sufficient clinical guidelines or clinical researches on this issue (16-18). Thus, cumulative analysis of individually given pain management procedures may contribute to this requirement.

In this retrospective cross-sectional study, it was aimed to evaluate pain management after Ferguson Hemoroidectomy.

## **Materials and Methods**

### *Patients*

In the study, 151 patients who underwent Ferguson Hemorrhoidectomy between June 2017 and July 2019 were included in the study. VAS score was used for evaluation of pain by patients at 1<sup>st</sup> day and 1<sup>st</sup> week after surgery. Postop, 1<sup>st</sup> day and 1<sup>st</sup> week Visual Analog Scale (VAS) and follow up durations based on different pain management groups were compared.

### *Statistical Method*

Gender and painkiller groups were described by frequency analysis. Scale parameters were described by mean and standard deviations. Kolmogorov Smirnov test was used for normality of parameters. For normally distributed parameters, One Way ANOVA test was used with Levene's

equality of variance test. For non-normally distributed parameters, Kruskal Wallis H test was used. Gender differences between groups were analyzed with Chi-Square (Likelihood Ratio) test. All analysis was performed at SPSS 17.0 for windows at 95% Confidence Interval.

### *Ethical Approval*

An ethical approval from Gazi Yaşargil Education and Research Hospital, Medical Sciences University was applied and received.

### **Results**

Gender, age and VAS Scores of patients according to hospital medication groups were given in the Table 1.

Gender distribution of hospital medication groups were similar and differences were insignificant ( $p>0.05$ ). Age mean was the highest in the 150 mg pethidine (sc) + 75 mg diclofenac sodium (im) group, but the difference was insignificant ( $p>0.05$ ). postop follow up duration differences were also insignificant ( $p>0.05$ ). VAS 1<sup>st</sup> day and 1<sup>st</sup> week values were the highest in the 150 mg pethidine (sc) group with significant difference ( $p<0.05$ ). Gender, age and VAS Scores of patients according to discharged medication groups were given in the Table 2.

Similar to hospital medication group results, gender distribution, age and postop follow up parameter differences were not statistically significant ( $p>0.05$ ). VAS 1<sup>st</sup> day and VAS 1<sup>st</sup> week levels were the highest in the local lidocaine group with significant difference ( $p<0.05$ ). VAS 1<sup>st</sup> day mean and distributions according to hospital medication group was shown in the Scheme 1.

Scheme 1 showed that VAS score at 1<sup>st</sup> day was the highest in the 150 mg pethidine (sc) group, and VAS range was the highest in the 150 mg pethidine (sc) + 150 mg diclofenac sodium (im) group. The minimum range for VAS score was found at 150 mg pethidine (sc) + 75 mg diclofenac sodium (im) group, meaning that this medication group provided a stabile pain medication compared to other hospital medication treatments. VAS 1<sup>st</sup> week mean and distributions according to discharged medication group were given in the Scheme 2.

According to Scheme 2, the first three medication groups (150 mg diclofenac sodium (im), 150 mg diclofenac sodium (im) + 50 mg dexketoprofen (oral), and 200 mg tremadol (oral) + 50 mg dexketoprofen (oral)) had more stabile and not ranged pain scores. On the other hand, VAS scores of 200 mg tremadol (oral) + local lidocaine, 50 mg dexketoprofen (oral), and local lidocaine groups showed variations and had relatively higher ranges.

## **Discussion**

In the studies on pain complaints after hemorrhoid surgery, various demographic features are given. In these studies, there are studies showing that men are more painful than women and vice versa, there are studies showing that women are more painful (19-26). In our study, it was seen that women applied for more pain complaints than men. However, gender distributions did not show statistically significant difference in pain treatment groups ( $p > 0.05$ ). The same was true for age and postoperative follow-up.

Although pain management is an important issue in hospital surgical interventions, there is no appropriate pain management guide for every scenario. Especially in interventions accompanied by high pain such as hemorrhoids, different types of pain treatment are observed depending on the patient's condition (27-31). In our study, VAS level was highest in both groups on 1<sup>st</sup> day and 1<sup>st</sup> week in the group administered 150 mg pethidine (sc), and the difference was statistically significant ( $p < 0.05$ ). In the group treated with 200 mg tramadol (iv) + 150 mg diclofenac sodium (im), the VAS level was the lowest on 1<sup>st</sup> day and 1<sup>st</sup> week.

In the post-hospital period, pain management is particularly important in high-surgical surgical interventions such as hemorrhoids (32-38). The pain management method to be given in this regard is determined according to many factors such as clinical condition of the patient and concomitant disease. In our study, in the management of post-hospital pain, women were the majority in all six pain management identified. However, there was no significant difference between the groups according to age and sex. The highest VAS levels were in the local lidocaine group on 1<sup>st</sup> day and 1<sup>st</sup> week, whereas the lowest values were in the 150 mg diclofenac sodium (im) + 50 mg dexketoprofen (oral) group.

## **Conclusion**

There was four common pain management procedure during hospitalization, whereas six pain management procedures were cumulated after hospitalization. although there have been a unique pain management procedure or a guideline on pain management after Ferguson Hemoroidectomy, clinical research results may have contribution for effective pain management after Ferguson Hemoroidectomy.

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## **Disclosure**

The author declares no conflicts of interest in this work.

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**Table 1.** Gender, age and VAS Scores of patients according to hospital medication groups

**Table 2.** Gender, age and VAS Scores of patients according to discharged medication groups

**Scheme 1.** VAS 1<sup>st</sup> day mean and distributions according to hospital medication group

**Scheme 2.** VAS 1<sup>st</sup> week mean and distributions according to discharged medication group

**Table 1.** Gender, age and VAS Scores of patients according to hospital medication groups

	<b>150 mg pethidine (sc)</b>	<b>150 mg pethidine (sc) + 150 mg diclofenac sodium (im)</b>	<b>150 mg pethidine (sc) + 75 mg diclofenac sodium (im)</b>	<b>200 mg tremadol (iv) + 150 mg diclofenac sodium (im)</b>	<b>p</b>
Females, n (%)	22 (84.6)	68 (97.1)	7 (87.5)	36 (94.7)	0.180 <sup>a</sup>
Males, n (%)	4 (15.4)	2 (2.9)	1 (12.5)	2 (5.3)	
Age, mean±SD	35.11±10.13	41.78±12.00	<b>45.12±15.66</b>	39.16±10.74	0.050 <sup>b</sup>
Postop Follow up, mean±SD	<b>1.61±1.02</b>	1.44±0.73	1.12±0.35	1.53±0.86	0.522 <sup>c</sup>
VAS 1 <sup>st</sup> day, mean±SD	<b>5.00±0.56</b>	3.06±0.48	3.87±0.64	3.05±0.23	0.000 <sup>c</sup>
VAS 1 <sup>st</sup> week, mean±SD	<b>5.81±1.02</b>	5.16±1.12	4.87±1.36	4.55±1.33	0.001 <sup>c</sup>

a. Chi-Square (Likelihood Ratio), b. Oneway ANOVA, c. Kruskal Wallis H Test.

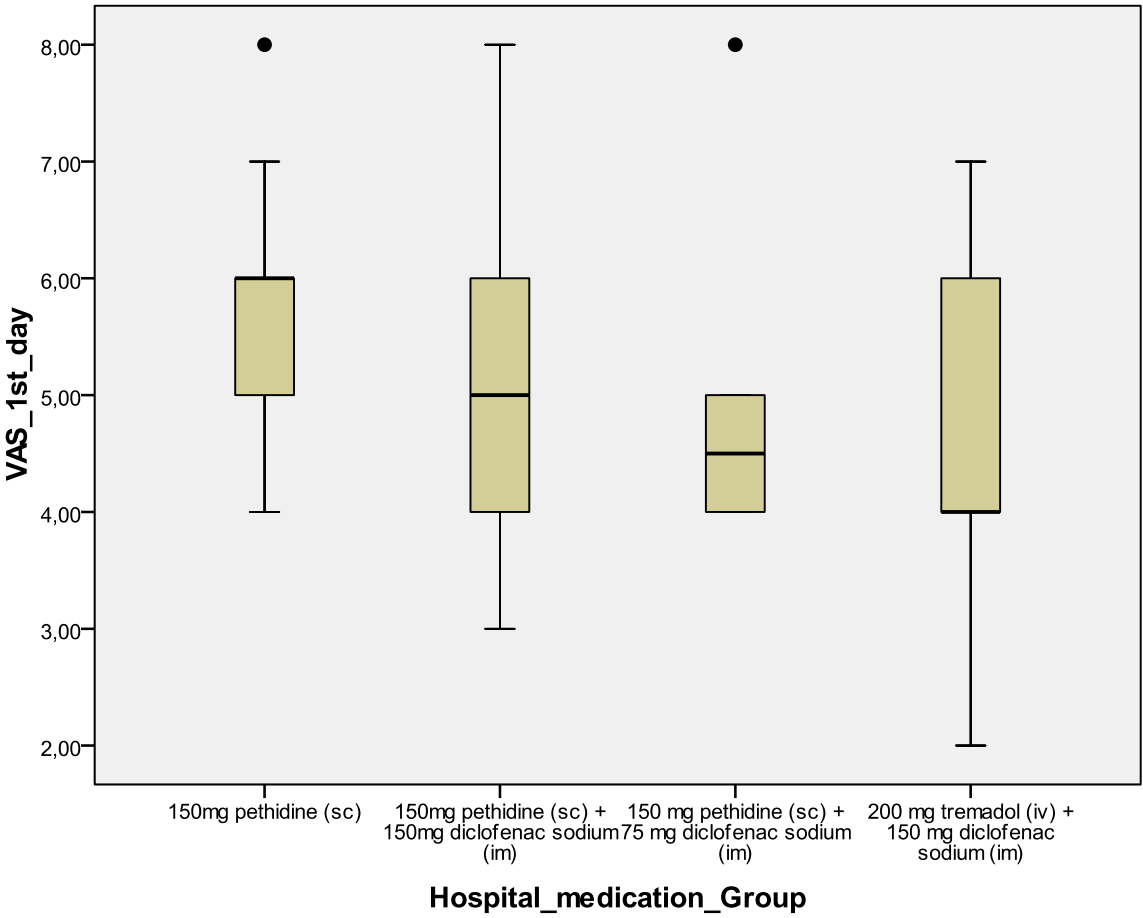


**Table 2.** Gender, age and VAS Scores of patients according to discharged medication groups

	150 mg diclofenac sodium (im)	150 mg diclofenac sodium (im) + 50 mg dexketoprofen (oral)	200 mg tremadol (oral) + 50 mg dexketoprofen (oral)	200 mg tremadol (oral) + local lidocaine	50 mg dexketoprofen (oral)	local lidocaine	p
Females, n (%)	15 (100.0)	32 (91.4)	42 (95.5)	5 (83.3)	22 (91.7)	17 (94.4)	0.635 <sup>a</sup>
Males, n (%)	-	3 (8.6)	2 (4.5)	1 (16.7)	2 (8.3)	1 (5.6)	
Age, mean±SD	41.07±14.09	41.11±12.53	<b>42.81±10.38</b>	35.17±10.63	37.69±10.44	35.11±12.40	0.162 <sup>b</sup>
Postop Follow up, mean±SD	1.27±0.46	<b>1.68±0.99</b>	1.48±0.66	1.67±0.82	1.37±0.92	1.33±0.84	0.245 <sup>c</sup>
VAS 1 <sup>st</sup> day, mean±SD	3.13±0.52	3.08±0.28	3.11±0.44	4.33±1.03	3.92±1.14	<b>4.39±1.14</b>	0.000 <sup>c</sup>
VAS 1 <sup>st</sup> week, mean±SD	4.47±0.83	3.97±0.82	5.59±0.95	5.50±1.05	5.50±1.10	<b>5.94±1.39</b>	0.000 <sup>c</sup>

a. Chi-Square (Likelihood Ratio), b. Oneway ANOVA, c. Kruskal Wallis H Test.

**Scheme 1.** VAS 1<sup>st</sup> day mean and distributions according to hospital medication group



**Scheme 2.** VAS 1<sup>st</sup> week mean and distributions according to discharged medication group

