

BARRIERS TO OPIOID AVAILABILITY TEST (BOAT)

The World Health Organization has concluded that opioid analgesics in the class of morphine must be available for the management of pain, but that there are impediments to their availability and medical use. The purpose of this survey is to collect information about the prevalence and severity of impediments from the point of view of health professionals who care for patients with cancer or AIDS.

This survey research tool was originally published in "Availability of Opioids for Cancer Pain: Recent Trends, Assessment of System Barriers, New World Health Organization Guidelines, and the Risk of Diversion," by David Joranson.¹ It was copyrighted 1993 by the U.S. Cancer Pain Relief Committee.

DIRECTIONS: Choose **only one answer** for each question unless otherwise requested

Section I.

What is your professional training?

- Medicine
- Nursing
- Pharmacy
- Other _____

What is your primary affiliation?

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Clinic | <input type="checkbox"/> Government |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Nursing Home/Long-term care facility | <input type="checkbox"/> Home care service |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hospital | <input type="checkbox"/> Pharmaceutical company |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Academic Institution | <input type="checkbox"/> Pharmacy |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hospice/Palliative care | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |

In what country and state do you practice?

Name of country: _____

Name of state/region: _____

If you are involved in patient care, approximately how many **CANCER** patients were cared for in your program last year? _____

Approximately what percentage of these **CANCER** patients had late-stage cancer? _____%

If you are involved in patient care, approximately how many **HIV/AIDS** patients were cared for in your program last year? _____

¹ David Joranson, "Availability of Opioids for Cancer Pain: Recent Trends, Assessment of System Barriers, New World Health Organization Guidelines, and the Risk of Diversion," Journal of Pain & Symptom Management, 1993; 8(6): 353-360.

Section II.

How serious are these impediments to the availability of opioids such as morphine for <i>cancer</i> pain relief?	Not a problem	Minor problem	Moderate problem	Serious problem	Don't know
The prescription forms are not available when needed.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
It is difficult for programs to obtain the necessary licenses.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Shortages of opioids result in inadequate availability to cancer patients.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Physicians are reluctant to prescribe opioids.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Pharmacists are reluctant to stock opioids.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Nurses are reluctant to administer opioids.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Patients are reluctant to take opioids.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The cost of opioids makes it difficult for patients to obtain them.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Opioid products are not available in needed dosage forms and dosages.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Laws or regulations restrict the amounts of opioids which can be prescribed.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
It is difficult for patients to obtain opioids for use at home.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
It is difficult for physicians to obtain the necessary licenses.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

How serious are these impediments to the availability of opioids such as morphine for <i>HIV/AIDS</i> pain relief?	Not a problem	Minor problem	Moderate problem	Serious problem	Don't know
The prescription forms are not available when needed.	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
It is difficult for programs to obtain the necessary licenses.	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
Shortages of opioids result in inadequate availability to cancer patients.	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
Physicians are reluctant to prescribe opioids	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
Pharmacists are reluctant to stock opioids	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
Nurses are reluctant to administer opioids.	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
Patients are reluctant to take opioids.	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
The cost of opioids makes it difficult for patients to obtain them.	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
Opioid products are not available in needed dosage forms and dosages.	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
Laws or regulations restrict the amounts of opioids which can be prescribed.	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
It is difficult for patients to obtain opioids for use at home.	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
It is difficult for physicians to obtain the necessary licenses.	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]

Section III.

From your experience, what is your opinion regarding use of opioids such as morphine in these situations?	Strongly disagree	Somewhat disagree	Somewhat agree	Strongly agree	Don't know
Pain in cancer patients is not treated adequately.	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
Pain in AIDS patients is not treated adequately.	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
Pain in surgery patients is not treated adequately.	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
There have been no recent improvements in the availability of opioids.	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
Opioids are not available to treat children with cancer pain.	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
Opioids are not available to treat children with AIDS pain.	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
Health care professionals do not have adequate educational opportunities to learn about the use of opioids in pain management.	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
Concern about addiction interferes with the use of opioids to treat cancer pain.	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
Concern about addiction interferes with the use of opioids to treat AIDS pain.	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
Opioids are not always available to the patient for emergencies, including nights and weekends.	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
For severe cancer pain, strict control of morphine results in the prescribing of weaker, less controlled, analgesics.	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
For severe AIDS pain, strict control of morphine results in the prescribing of weaker, less controlled, analgesics.	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]