



Frequently Asked Questions for Patient-Controlled Analgesia (PCA) Instrument 病人自控式止痛機器使用常見問題(英文)

Why use Patient-Controlled Analgesia Instrument?

You could be experiencing pain on the wound or certain area of the body after surgery or due to other diseases. Usually the duration of these symptoms will vary according to the severity of disease and state of recovery. For example, patients receiving surgery will have more serious pain in the first 3 days after surgery and the situation will gradually improve.

Common pain symptoms are usually controlled by taking oral medicine, muscular injection or intravenous pain medications. However the performance of pain relief usually could not be controlled and the duration of pain relief often falls short of expectation. Hence, the adverse effect due to pain delays your recovery. To more effectively dispose pain, we suggest you to consider the use of "Patient – Controlled Analgesia, which abbreviated as PCA."

What are the advantages of using Patient-Controlled Analgesia?

Pain is a highly subjective perception and only the person experiencing it could perceive truly. When you perceive unbearable pain, you can immediately receive analgesia through the buttons in your hands to quickly relieve the pain. The analgesia will start working in 5 minutes after injection to the body and you will perceive gradual reduction of pain.

You can press the button of PCA instrument in 5 minutes before dressing change, coughing, taking deep breath, rolling, getting up, chest care, or

rehabilitation, to alleviate the discomfort brought by these motions and without the need to wait for nurses to help you dispose the pain.

With the help of proper pain relief, you may get off the bed to move around and this will prevent the occurrence of post-surgery complications (i.e. fever and even pneumonia or myocardial ischemia), which facilitates the implementation of other treatment (i.e. rehabilitation, breathing treatment, dressing change, and cancer treatment). It will also help patients with quick recovery and improvement on living quality in addition to early discharge from the hospital.

Is it safe to use Patient-Controlled Analgesia Instrument?

PCA instrument has been available for years. The individual patient determines the dose of use with multiple control measures enhancing medication safety through built-in computer program. Nonetheless the administration of painkiller concurrently via other means will need to take consideration of the interaction between medicines.

For how long will I need to use Patient-Controlled Analgesia?

The time of usage for patient-controlled analgesia is determined by the course of disease and length of pain. In general, the pain after surgery will be reduced as time passes and will less likely depend on the help of patient-controlled analgesia in 2~3 days. The pain caused by other cancer or non-cancer chronic diseases could also be improved through patient-controlled analgesia. The time of use mainly depends on the individual.

Will I get addicted to it?

The drug inside the patient-controlled analgesia instrument is morphine-like drug that can be administered under physician evaluation and prescription due to the short term use. Hence without the consolidation of other painkiller, the possibility of addiction is simply negligible.

What are the side effects to Patient-Controlled Analgesia Instrument?

The main side effects of patient-controlled analgesia come from medicine and are similar to the side effects of traditional syringe analgesia. However the concept of separate administration of patient-controlled analgesia will minimize side effects. Approximately 10% of the patients will experience symptoms such as dizziness, nausea, vomiting, or skin itch.

What can be done about the side effects that come with the Patient-Controlled Analgesia?

You can do something about the side effects of patient-controlled analgesia and you do not need to endure the pain to avoid the side effects. Enduring pain without doing anything about it could on contrary produce complications and slow down the recovery process.

若有任何疑問，請不吝與我們聯絡
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