

PainTrainUK survey of Diamorphine shortage - For acute pain leads.

14 Apr 2024

How has the anaesthetic workforce responded to the national diamorphine shortage in the management of non-obstetric peri-operative pain?



* Required

General questions

To be filled by collaborator

1. What is the name of hospital where you are recruiting? *

2. What is the region of UK is this? *

North East and Yorkshire

North West

Midlands

East of England

London

South East

South West

Scotland

Northern Ireland

Wales

3. What type of hospital you work at?

- Teaching hospital
- Trauma centre
- District general hospital
- Day case Centre
- Other

4. How many total number of consultant anesthetists do you have at your site?

- Other

Acute pain lead/Inpatient pain team/ Clinical lead

5. Has your department been affected by the shortage of intrathecal diamorphine? *

Yes

No

Maybe

6. If yes, has the impact been significant enough to change departmental practice?
Please tick all that apply.

Not currently

No, Monitoring stock levels

Restricted use of intrathecal diamorphine to specific areas

Informal advice of alternatives to diamorphine

Formal departmental advice via email

New guideline/ Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) in place

Other

7. Has the post-operative monitoring of patients altered specifically due to a change in intrathecal opiates used in your trust in the context of diamorphine shortage?

- Not applicable
- There is a change in practice but not how we monitor patients
- Yes – please provide details below
- Other

8. Have you changed how or where post-operative patients are monitored after new practice?

- Admission to higher acuity Post-operative destination (Post-operative Anaesthetic Unit (PACU), extended recovery, High Dependency Unit (HDU), ward, etc.)
- Duration of monitoring
- What Is being monitored (observations etc.)
- Whether there is a doctor on-site
- Other

9. Prior to diamorphine shortage, where would majority of your patients with intrathecal opioids be cared for in the post-operative period?

- PACU/HDU/Overnight recovery
- Higher care area on surgical ward
- Routine post-operative surgical ward
- Other

10. Have any specific surgical specialities continued to use diamorphine during shortage?

- Not applicable
- Obstetrics
- Paediatrics
- Vascular
- Orthopaedics / Trauma
- Neurosurgery
- Cardiothoracic surgery
- Other

11. What preparation of diamorphine does your department have available? Please tick all that apply

Pre-filled syringes 1mg

Pre-filled syringes 3mg

Pre-filled syringes 5mg

1mg vial

5mg vial

10mg vial

Other

12. Have you developed any guidelines/Standard Operating Procedures because of the shortage of diamorphine? (excluding obstetric anaesthesia)

No

Yes

Other

13. What evidence have was considered to inform these guidelines/Standard Operating Procedure documents?

- Not applicable
- Local consensus
- Expert opinion
- Adaptation of existing local guideline
- National guidelines
- Other

14. Does your hospital have a local policy for ward-based monitoring of patients who have received intrathecal morphine or diamorphine?

- Yes
- No
- Don't know
- Maybe
- Other

15. Would you be willing to be contacted by the Pain-Train UK team for further communications regarding this study? If yes, please leave your email. (We promise not to spam every week or month, privacy will strictly be followed.)

Feel free to share specifics.

Questions for individual consultant anaesthetists-3

This survey focuses on the use of diamorphine in a non-obstetric setting

16. In which anaesthetic subspecialities did you routinely use intrathecal diamorphine before the diamorphine shortage?

- General
- Paediatrics
- Obstetrics
- Vascular
- Orthopaedics / Trauma
- Neurosurgery
- Cardiothoracic surgery
- Other

17. Have you changed your anaesthetic practice due to recent diamorphine shortages?

- Yes
- No

18. How has this practice changed? Please select all that apply

Voluntarily reduced use of diamorphine to help preserve limited stock

Required to change practice due to formal departmental policy

Forced to change practice as no available stock

Other

19. What changes have you made to your intrathecal practice as a consequence of the diamorphine shortage ?

Intrathecal morphine

intrathecal fentanyl

Other intrathecal opioids - please name below

Local Anaesthetic without opioids

Stopped intrathecal analgesia

Other

20. If diamorphine stocks improve, will you return to your previous practice?

Yes

No

Maybe

21. If you stopped using intrathecal analgesia what was the reason for this:

- Unfamiliarity with alternative intrathecal opioids
- Lack of departmental policy
- Lack of national guidance
- Lack of evidence
- Patient safety concerns / Lack of adequate postoperative care facilities
- Other

22. Has there been a change in local policy in the postoperative destination of patients?

- Yes
- No
- If yes, please specify

23. What change in local policy in the postoperative destination of patients?

- Extended stay in recovery
- Increased admissions to high dependency areas
- Specific surgical wards with trained staff
- Other

24. Did you use intrathecal morphine in your personal anaesthetic practice prior to the Diamorphine shortage?

Yes

No,

Other

25. Would you like to know the result of this survey? Please write your email below if yes

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