

Pharmacotherapeutic Considerations in the Treatment of Cancer Pain

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LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

Upon completion of this overview, the attendee should be able to:

1. Identify important epidemiological factors specific to undertreatment of cancer pain.
2. List adjuvant pharmacotherapeutic agents used to treat cancer pain and recognize their appropriate place in the therapy.
3. Differentiate between acute and chronic pain and understand the differences in treatment approaches.
4. Understand the differences between tolerance and addiction.
5. Identify the role of opioid analgesics in the treatment of acute and chronic cancer pain.
6. Describe the chemical differences and dosage forms among opioid analgesics and understand how these differences effect appropriate drug selection.