ANESTHESIA & ANALGESIA

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Editor-in-Chief

February 20, 2009

To our readers:

On January 22, 2009 Anesthesia & Analgesia received a summary of an investigation conducted by Baystate Medical Center into the research of Dr. Scott Reuben. To quote from the notice we received:

"Baystate Medical Center ("BMC") conducted and investigation pursuant to the Baystate Health Policy on Misconduct in Research and Scholarly Activities (the "Policy"). Dr. Reuben cooperated fully in this investigation. BMC's investigation determined that Dr. Reuben fabricated data reported in the referenced articles, and that all fabricated data were created under the sole control of Dr. Reuben."

The same day the Journal posted a list of the articles in Anesthesia & Analgesia found to be based on fabricated data. Since that time we have compiled a complete list of articles that Baystate Medical Center found were based on fabricated data:

1. Reuben SS, Connelly NR. Postarthroscopic meniscus repair analgesia with intraarticular ketorolac or morphine. Anesth. Analg. 1996;82:1036-9.
2. Reuben SS, Connelly NR, Maciolek H. Postoperative analgesia with controlled-release oxycodone for outpatient anterior cruciate ligament surgery. Anesth Analg. 1999;88:1286-91.
3. Reuben SS, Reuben JP. Brachial plexus anesthesia with verapamil and/or morphine. Anesth Analg. 2000;91:379-83.
4. Reuben SS, Connelly NR. Postoperative analgesic effects of celecoxib or rofecoxib after spinal fusion surgery. Anesth Analg. 2000;91:1221-5.
5. Reuben SS, Vieira P, Faruqui S, Verghis A, Kilaru P, Maciolek H. Local administration of morphine to bone following spinal fusion surgery. Anesthesiology 2001;95:390-4.
6. Reuben SS, Fingeroth R, Krushell R, Maciolek H: Evaluation of the safety and efficacy of the perioperative administration of rofecoxib for total knee arthroplasty. J Arthroplasty. 2002;17:26-31.
7. Reuben SS, Steinberg RB, Maciolek H, Manikantan P. An evaluation of the analgesic efficacy of intravenous regional anesthesia with lidocaine and ketorolac using a forearm versus upper arm tourniquet. Anesth Analg. 2002;95:457-60
8. Reuben SS, Gutta SB, Sklar J, Maciolek H: Effect of initiating a multimodal analgesic regimen upon patient outcomes after anterior cruciate ligament reconstruction for same-day surgery: a 1200-patient case series. Acute Pain 2004;6:87-93.

9. Reuben SS, Rosenthal EA, Steinberg RB, Faruqi S, Kilaru PR: Surgery on the affected upper extremity of patients with a history of complex regional pain syndrome: The use of intravenous regional anesthesia with clonidine. J. Clin Anesth 2004;16:517-522.
10. Reuben SS, Makari-Judson G, Lurie SD: Evaluation of efficacy of the perioperative administration of venlafaxine XR in the prevention of postmastectomy pain syndrome. J Pain Symptom Manage. 2004;27:133-9.
11. Reuben S. The effect of intraoperative valdecoxib administration on PGE2 levels in the CSF. J Pain 6, Supplement 1:S21 (Abstract 649)
12. Reuben SS, Ekman EF. The effect of cyclooxygenase-2 inhibition on analgesia and spinal fusion. J Bone Joint Surg Am. 2005;87:536-42
13. Scott S. Reuben, Srinivasa B. Gutta, Holly Maciolek, Joseph Sklar, James Redford. Effect of initiating a preventative multimodal analgesic regimen upon long-term patient outcomes after anterior cruciate ligament reconstruction for same-day surgery: A 1200-patient case series. Acute Pain 2005;7: 65-73.
14. Reuben SS, Pristas R, Dixon D, Faruqi S, Madabhushi L, Wenner S. The incidence of complex regional pain syndrome after fasciectomy for Dupuytren's contracture: a prospective observational study of four anesthetic techniques. Anesth Analg. 2006;102:499-503
15. Reuben SS, Buvanendran A, Kroin JS, Raghunathan K. The analgesic efficacy of celecoxib, pregabalin, and their combination for spinal fusion surgery. Anesth Analg. 2006;103:1271-7
16. Reuben SS, Buvenandran A, Kroin JS, Raghunathan K. Analgesic efficacy of celecoxib,pregabalin, and their combination for spinal fusion surgery. Anesthesiology 2006;105:A1194.
17. Reuben SS, Buvanendran A, Kroin JS, Steinberg RB. Postoperative modulation of central nervous system prostaglandin E2 by cyclooxygenase inhibitors after vascular surgery. Anesthesiology 2006;104:411-6.
18. Reuben SS, Ekman EF, Raghunathan K, Steinberg RB, Blinder JL, Adesioye J. The effect of cyclooxygenase-2 inhibition on acute and chronic donor-site pain after spinal-fusion surgery. Reg Anesth Pain Med. 2006;31:6-13.
19. Reuben SS, Ekman EF, Charron D. Evaluating the analgesic efficacy of administering celecoxib as a component of multimodal analgesia for outpatient anterior cruciate ligament reconstruction surgery. Anesth Analg. 2007;105:222-7
20. Reuben SS, Ekman EF. The effect of initiating a preventive multimodal analgesic regimen on long-term patient outcomes for outpatient anterior cruciate ligament reconstruction surgery. Anesth Analg. 2007;105:228-32
21. Reuben SS, Buvenandran A, Katz B, Kroin JS. A prospective randomized trial on the role of perioperative celecoxib administration for total knee arthroplasty: improving clinical outcomes. Anesth Analg. 2008;106:1258-64

Most if not all of these manuscripts will be retracted by the journals in which they are published. However, our responsibility to our readership, and the patients we care for, requires immediate notification of the findings of the Baystate Medical Center to our readership. The formal retraction notice appears in the May issue of Anesthesia & Analgesia. The May issue includes two editorials addressing the implications of these retractions on our understanding of perioperative analgesia.

We appreciate the absolute dedication to academic integrity demonstrated by Baystate Medical Center in conducting this investigation, and sharing with the Journal their findings of data fabrication.

Sincerely,

Steven L. Shafer, MD
Editor-in-Chief
Anesthesia & Analgesia