

Living and dying in pain – it doesn't have to happen.

CARESEARCH HAS THE EVIDENCE FOR PRACTICE

Improve the care of people with cancer pain by using the Australian Clinical Pathway

Understand the evidence for your practice

Keep up to date - with systematic reviews, evidence updates and pre-written literature searches on pain management

FEATURED REVIEW

Pain management: the big picture...

This review by Lockett et al in 2013 confirms the importance of a comprehensive approach to pain management. The approach needs to emphasise educating patients and families, improving communication, individualising care for patients, using more non-pharmacological strategies, and empowering patients and their families to self-manage pain. To achieve these patient-centered outcomes will require a reorganisation of multidisciplinary roles.

Lockett T, Davidson PM, Green A, Boyle F, Stubbs J, Lovell M. Assessment and management of adult cancer pain: a systematic review and synthesis of recent qualitative studies aimed at developing insights for managing barriers and optimizing facilitators within a comprehensive framework of patient care. *J Pain Symptom Manage.* 2013 Aug;46(2):229-53. Epub 2012 Nov 15.

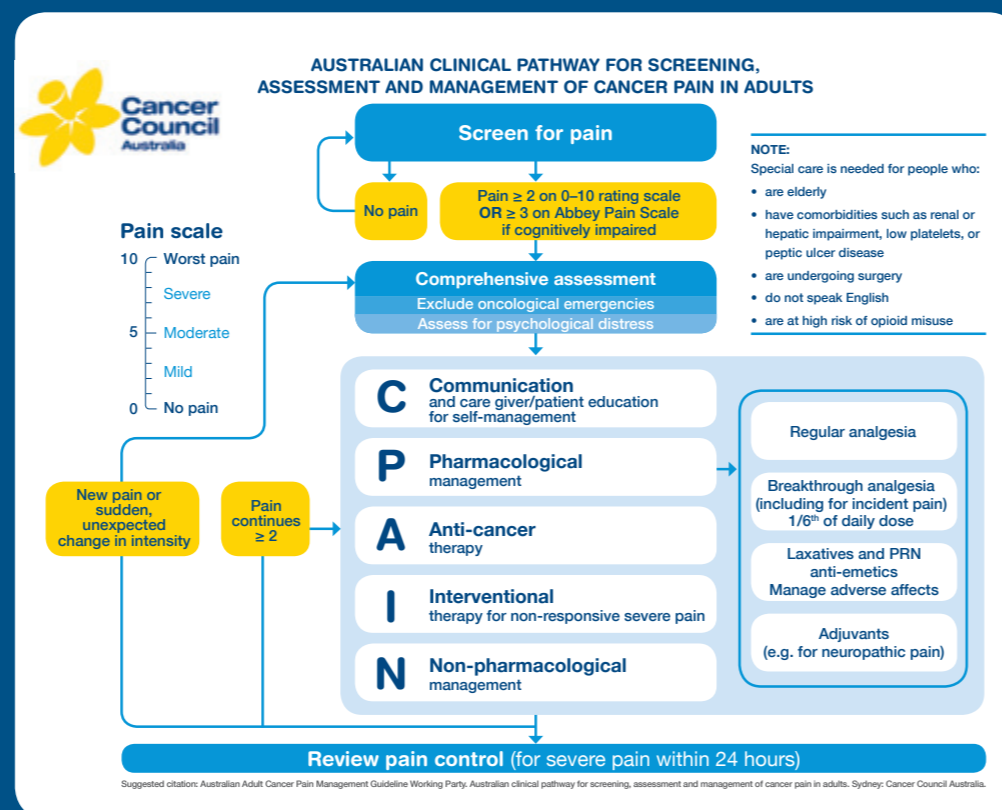


Diagram courtesy of Cancer Council Australia

Recent highlights from the CareSearch Systematic Review Collection on Pain

Screening...

- Comparing numerical rating scales, verbal rating scales and visual analogue scales for assessment of pain intensity in adults
- Behavioural pain indicators in people with intellectual disabilities
- The McGill Pain Questionnaire as a multidimensional measure in people with cancer

Pain in the elderly...

- Pain assessment tools for older people with cognitive impairment
- Identifying and managing pain in people with Alzheimer's disease and other types of dementia
- Cancer-related pain and symptoms among nursing home residents

Self-management...

- Educational interventions for cancer pain
- YouTube as a tool for pain management with informal caregivers of cancer patients
- Cultural differences in Western and Asian patient-perceived barriers to managing cancer pain
- Meta-analysis of psychosocial interventions to reduce pain in patients with cancer

Pharmacological management...

- Clinically significant drug-drug interactions involving opioid analgesics
- Methods of rotation from another strong opioid to methadone for cancer pain
- Buprenorphine for cancer pain
- Oral tapentadol for cancer pain
- Extended-release opioids in the management of cancer pain: systematic review of efficacy and safety
- Do corticosteroids provide analgesic effects in cancer patients?
- A systematic review of the influence of opioids on advanced cancer patient survival

Non pharmacological management...

- Non-pharmacological cancer pain interventions in populations with social disparities
- Regional anesthesia approaches to pain management in pediatric palliative care
- Guided imagery for non-musculoskeletal pain
- Acupuncture for treatment of cancer pain

To find these references, and many more, go to: <https://www.caresearch.com.au/caresearch/FindingEvidence/CareSearchReviewCollection/ReviewCollectionPain/tabid/665/Default.aspx#PainPharm?>