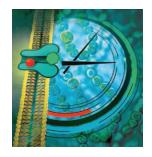
ANESTHESIOLOGY





ON THE COVER:

Traditional local anesthetics, like lidocaine, bupivacaine, and tetracaine, produce neural blockade by binding deep within the central pore of the transmembrane sodium channel. Local anesthetics have a limited duration of action and their use is restricted by cardiac and central nervous system toxicity. In contrast, marine toxins like tetrodotoxin and the saxitoxins bind at a distinct location on the sodium channel and have varying affinities for cardiac sodium channels. In this issue of Anesthesiology, Cravero, Berde and their colleagues show that when neosaxitoxin and bupivacaine are administered concomitantly, a prolonged-duration sensory block is created without evidence of added cardiac or central nervous system toxicity, demonstrating the potential for prolonged, but reversible, neural blockade.

- Lobo et al.: A Phase 1, Dose-escalation, Double-blind, Block-randomized, Controlled Trial of Safety and Efficacy of Neosaxitoxin Alone and in Combination with 0.2% Bupivacaine, with and without Epinephrine, for Cutaneous Anesthesia, p. 873
- Templin et al.: Neosaxitoxin in Rat Sciatic Block: Improved Therapeutic Index Using Combinations with Bupivacaine, with and without Epinephrine, p. 886
- Lahaye and Butterworth: Site-1 Sodium Channel Blockers as Local Anesthetics: Will Neosaxitoxin Supplant the Need for Continuous Nerve Blocks?, p. 741

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Refers to Editorial Views



System

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• •	Influence of Tracheal Obstruction on the Efficacy of Superimposed High-frequency Jet Ventilation and Single-frequency Jet Ventilation R. Sütterlin, A. LoMauro, S. Gandolfi, R. Priori, A. Aliverti, P. Frykholm, and A. Larsson	799
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■ CRITICAL CARE MEDICINE

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Low Cerebral Oxygenation Levels during Resuscitation in Out-of-hospital Cardiac Arre	est
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A. Duvekot, V. A. Viersen, S. E. Dekker, L. M. G. Geeraedts, Jr., L. A. Schwarte, A. M. E. Spoelstra-Man, P. M. van de Ven, C. E. van den Brom, M. C. de Waard, S. A. Loer, and C. Boer

Activation of the fibrinolytic system is more common in out-of-hospital cardiopulmonary arrest patients with an initial cerebral tissue oxygenation value of 50% or less during resuscitation and is linked to increased levels of tissue plasminogen activator rather than involvement of protein C.

Diagnostic Accuracy of Respiratory Distress Observation Scales as Surrogates of Dyspnea Self-report in Intensive Care Unit Patients

R. Persichini, F. Gay, M. Schmidt, J. Mayaux, A. Demoule, C. Morélot-Panzini, and T. Similowski

In 220 intensive care unit patients able to communicate, an observational scale containing five nonverbal signs was derived and validated respective to dyspnea self-report. This should help better understand and manage mechanically ventilated patients in the future. SUPPLEMENTAL DIGITAL CONTENT IS AVAILABLE IN THE TEXT

■ PAIN MEDICINE

CLINICAL SCIENCE

◆ ⊕ Up-regulation of Cathepsin G in the Development of Chronic Postsurgical Pain: An Experimental and Clinical Genetic Study

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X. Liu, Y. Tian, Z. Meng, Y. Chen, I. H. T. Ho, K. W. Choy, P. Lichtner, S. H. Wong, J. Yu, T. Gin, W. K. K. Wu, C. H. K. Cheng, and M. T. V. Chan

Cathepsin G blockade reduced inflammation in the spinal cord and reduced pain behavior in rodents. In humans, two specific polymorphisms were associated with a lower risk for the development of chronic postsurgical pain. The data suggest that cathepsin G in a pronociceptive mediator in experimental subjects and humans; as such, it offers a potential therapeutic target for prevention of chronic postsurgical pain. SUPPLEMENTAL DIGITAL CONTENT IS AVAILABLE IN THE TEXT

◇ Novel 10-kHz High-frequency Therapy (HF10 Therapy) Is Superior to Traditional Low-frequency Spinal Cord Stimulation for the Treatment of Chronic Back and Leg Pain: The SENZA-RCT Randomized Controlled Trial

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L. Kapural, C. Yu, M. W. Doust, B. E. Gliner, R. Vallejo, B. T. Sitzman, K. Amirdelfan, D. M. Morgan, L. L. Brown, T. L. Yearwood, R. Bundschu, A. W. Burton, T. Yang, R. Benyamin, and A. H. Burgher

This randomized trial involving 198 participants demonstrated that high-frequency spinal cord stimulation was superior to conventional spinal cord stimulation for the treatment of back pain and leg pain. The effects of high-frequency stimulation relative to conventional stimulation persisted for 12 months.

Psychiatric Comorbidity Is Associated Prospectively with Diminished Opioid Analgesia and Increased Opioid Misuse in Patients with Chronic Low Back Pain

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A. D. Wasan, E. Michna, R. R. Edwards, J. N. Katz, S. S. Nedeljkovic, A. J. Dolman, D. Janfaza, Z. Isaac, and R. N. Jamison

In 81 patients with chronic low back pain prospectively studied for $6\frac{1}{2}$ months with placebo followed by opioids, those with high negative affect were prescribed larger average daily doses of opioids, had less improvement in pain, and had a greater rate of opioid misuse than those with low negative affect. These prospective data support previous cross-sectional data to suggest that negative affect presents an important risk factor in inadequate analgesia from opioids and opioid misuse.

\	A Phase 1, Dose-escalation, Double-blind, Block-randomized, Controlled Trial of Safety	
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	In a first-in-human Food and Drug Administration—regulated phase 1 safety study in 84 male volunteers, subcutaneous infiltration of Neosaxitoxin with bupivacaine produced long-lasting anesthesia but no serious adverse events although perioral numbness and tingling were noted at high doses. Addition of epinephrine reduced circulating Neosaxitoxin concentrations and perioral tingling and numbness and further prolonged sensory block. SUPPLEMENTAL DIGITAL CONTENT IS AVAILABLE IN THE TEXT	
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	In rats, combination of Neosaxitoxin with bupivacaine for sciatic nerve block resulted in motor and sensory block, which was longer than either agent alone, and was up to 48 h when epinephrine was added. Histologic examination showed no evidence of neural toxicity, and intravenous injection of Neosaxitoxin resulted in cardiotoxicity with longer delays than bupivacaine.	
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