reference	participants' characteristics	intervention group/ control group	outcomes	critical appraisal/ conclusion
Ouerghi et al. 2011 The effect of adding intrathecal magnesium sulphate to morphine-fentanyl spinal analgesia after thoracic surgery. A prospective, double-blind, placebo-controlled research study. Ann Fr Anesth Reanim. 2011;30(1):25-30.	inclusion criteria - ASA physical status I or II - age 18–70 years exclusion criteria - lack of patient consent - atrioventricular block - inability to comprehend pain scale - localised or systemic sepsis - contraindications to regional techniques - need for an additional incision - previously treatment with calcium channel blockers - preoperative blood magnesium level outside the normal range (0.8–1.1 mmol/l) demographic data: group S group Mg p age (yrs) 53±9 46±15 0.056 ASA physical status (I/II) 18/11 19/10 0.50 weight (kg) 57±8 72±24 0.18 body weight (kg/m²) 22±3 25±4 0.56 sex (m/f) 20/9 19/10 0.50 preoperative blood magnesium level (mg/L) 0.86±0.08 0.9±0.11 0.25 patient flow and follow up: total patient number included: 59 randomised in: group S: 29 group Mg: 29 excluded: 1 analysed: 58 follow-up: 1, 2, 6, 10, 14, 18, 20, 24, 28, 32, 36 h	intervention prior to anaesthesia - group S: 25 µg fentanyl citrate (0.5 mL) + 300 µg of morphine + 1.0 mL preservative-free 0.9% sodium chloride - group Mg: 25 µg fentanyl citrate (0.5 mL) + 300 µg of morphine + 50 mg of magnesium sulphate 5% (1.0 mL) mode of anaesthesia fentanyl surgical approach - elective posterolateral thoracotomy S Mg p lobectomy 16 15 0.5 kystectomy 6 10 0.22 bullectomy 7 4 0.25 postoperative analgesia - PCA morphine 1 mg/7 min supplemental analgesia - IV paracetamol 60 mg/kg/day rescue analgesia - if VAS>3-4: titration of IV morphine, 2 mg/5 min	postoperative pain [VAS]: mean (95% CI) VAS pain scores at rest and on coughing were similar in all groups. total dosage of morphine in 36 h: median and interquartile 25–75% or number (percentage) - total 36 h IV morphine requirements were significantly lower in group Mg group Mg group S p 14 [9.50–26.50] 33 [30–41] <0.001 - total dose of IV morphine administered during titration was significantly lower in group Mg group Mg group Mg group S p 4 [2–8] 8 [6–10] 0.001 - morphine consumption was significantly lower in the group MgSO ₄ at intervals 0–12, 12–24 and 24–36 h adverse effects/ events: - none reported	methodological shortcomings - not reported who generated the allocation sequence, who enrolled participants, and who assigned the participants to their groups level of evidence: 1 authors' conclusion "In patients undergoing pulmonary resection with elective posterolateral thoracotomy, magnesium sulphate (50 mg), when added to spinal morphine analgesia, reduces postoperative morphine requirements and the number of patients requiring morphine titration with similar incidence of side effects."