

reference	participants' characteristics	intervention group/ control group	outcomes	critical appraisal/ conclusion
<p>Behera et al. 2009 Patient-controlled epidural analgesia with fentanyl and bupivacaine provides better analgesia than IV morphine patient-controlled analgesia for early thoracotomy pain. J Postgrad Med. 2008;54(2):86-90.</p>	<p>inclusion criteria - ASA physical status I-II - age 20–70 yrs exclusion criteria - contraindications to regional anaesthesia - impaired ability to communicate demographic data: - group I group P age (yr) 43±12 37±10 sex (m/f) 12/3 9/6 weight (kg) 61±11 53±11 height (cm) 162±8 160±11 ASA (I/II) 12/3 11/4 patient flow and follow up: <u>total patient number included:</u> 34 <u>randomised in:</u> group I: 15 group P: 15 <u>excluded:</u> 4 <u>analysed:</u> 30 <u>follow-up:</u> 0, 2, 8, 12, 24 h</p>	<p>intervention prior to anaesthesia - not reported mode of anaesthesia - fentanyl surgical approach group I group P wedge resection 5 4 right lobectomy 2 2 left lobectomy 2 2 hydatid cyst removal 3 4 excision of mass/fungal wall 2 1 decortication 1 2 supplemental analgesia - if VAS >30 at rest, IV fentanyl 0.5 µg/kg in both groups postoperative analgesia - group P (PCEA): fentanyl 5 µg/mL + 0.125% bupivacaine - group I (IVPCA): morphine 1 mg/mL - both groups: PCA 2 mL bolus, 10 min lo</p>	<p>postoperative pain [VAS 0-100]: median (IQR) h group I group P p <u>at rest</u> 0 30 (30-40) 30 (25-30) 0.07 2 30 (30-40) 30 (25-30) 0.221 8 30 (30-40) 25 (20-30) 0.001 12 25 (20-30) 20 (15-20) 0.005 24 30 (20-30) 20 (20-25) 0.002 <u>during cough</u> 0 50 (50-60) 40 (40-60) 0.096 2 50 (40-60) 40 (42-50) 0.049 8 50 (50-60) 40 (30-40) 0.001 12 40 (40-50) 30 (30-40) <0.001 24 40 (40-50) 30 (30-40) <0.001 total fentanyl used intraop (µg) mean±SD group I group P p 280±20 295±25 >0.05 total analgesia used postop mean±SD group I group P morphine (mg) fentanyl (µg) 30.09±6.22 274.18±104.58 analgesic failure (n) group I group P p 12 5 <0.001 frequency of rescue analgesia (number of rescue boluses of IV fentanyl) group I group P p 24 7 <0.002 total dose of fentanyl rescue analgesia postop (µg) group I group P p 580 160 0.002 adverse effects/ events: (%) group I group P p nausea/vomiting 80 33 0.01 pruritis 53 20 0.04</p>	<p>methodological shortcomings - method used to implement the random allocation sequence not reported - not reported whether the sequence was adequately concealed until interventions were assigned - method used to generate the random allocation sequence not reported - not reported how the sequence was concealed until interventions were assigned - participant flow through each stage was not reported - dates defining the period of recruitment and follow-up not reported level of evidence: 1 authors' conclusion "PCEA using fentanyl and bupivacaine provides better pain relief both at rest and during coughing with fewer side effects, i.e. sedation, nausea/vomiting and pruritis as compared to IVPCA using morphine for post-thoracotomy pain for first 24 h"</p>