

**A STUDY ON THE EFFECT OF PROMETHAZINE ON  
MORPHINE ADMINISTRATION IN ACUTE SEVERE PAIN  
MANAGEMENT**

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Morphine is an opioid of choice for the management of acute severe pain in the Emergency Department. Unpleasant side effects of morphine such as nausea and vomiting may accompany for which promethazine is frequently added. Promethazine has also been prescribed to potentiate opiates. The objectives of this study were to determine the effect of promethazine on morphine as an analgesic as well as to investigate its usefulness to prevent nausea and vomiting due to morphine in acute pain management. Patients who fulfilled the inclusion criteria were randomized into 2 groups, morphine and placebo group and morphine with promethazine group. One hundred patients were enrolled. Sixty-five received morphine without promethazine, 45 received morphine with promethazine. Mean numeric pain score (NRS) at baseline was 7.2 (SD 0.40) for both the morphine alone group and the morphine promethazine group. At 60 minutes, the scores were 1.9 (SD 0.71), and 1.8 (SD 0.68) respectively for the two groups ( $p=0.960$ ). There was also no significant difference in the occurrence of nausea (9.1% versus 8.9%) and vomiting (5.5% versus 4.4%) when the groups were compared ( $p=0.626$ ,  $p=0.595$ ) respectively. Mean SBP, mean DBP and mean pulse rate differences were also not clinically and statistically significant, ( $p=0.931$ ,  $p=0.839$  and  $p=0.238$ ) respectively. We concluded that there were no statistically and clinically significant influence of promethazine on morphine both in terms of improved analgesia and in the prevention of nausea and vomiting secondary to morphine analgesia.

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