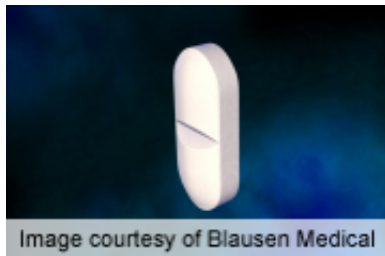


# Pre-op opioid use tied to higher post-op dependence

15 December 2014



work were disclosed: consultancy, grants.

**More information:** [Full Text \(subscription or payment may be required\)](#)

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(HealthDay)—Greater preoperative opioid use predicts increased immediate postoperative opioid demand and decreased incidence of postoperative opioid independence among spine surgery patients, according to a study published in the Dec. 1 issue of *Spine*.

Sheyan J. Armaghani, M.D., from the Vanderbilt University School of Medicine in Nashville, Tenn., and colleagues assessed self-reported daily opioid consumption preoperatively (converted into morphine equivalent amounts) and at the 12-month postoperative point in 583 patients undergoing [spine surgery](#).

The researchers found that the median preoperative morphine equivalent amount for the group was 8.75 mg. More than half of patients (55 percent) reported some degree of opioid use. Increased intraoperative opioid demand was significantly associated with younger age, more invasive surgery, anxiety, and primary surgery (P < .05). Increased postoperative opioid demand was significantly associated with primary surgery, anxiety, revision surgery, and greater preoperative opioid use (P < .05).

"Patients may benefit from preoperative counseling that emphasizes minimizing [opioid](#) use prior to undergoing spine [surgery](#)," the authors write.

Relevant financial activities outside the submitted

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