

Superior hypogastric plexus block beneficial after hysterectomy

June 23 2016



(HealthDay)—For women undergoing abdominal hysterectomy, superior

hypogastric plexus block with ropivacaine is associated with reduced opioid consumption, according to a study published online June 12 in *BJOG: An International Journal of Obstetrics and Gynaecology*.

Hanna Rapp, from Gävle Hospital in Sweden, and colleagues conducted a randomized double-blind trial involving [women](#) scheduled for total abdominal [hysterectomy](#) for a benign indication. Participants were individually randomized to receive 20 ml ropivacaine (38 women) or saline (37 women) retroperitoneally in the area of the superior hypogastric plexus during surgery.

Analysis was performed in 35 and 33 women in the ropivacaine and placebo groups, respectively. The researchers found that participants in the ropivacaine group had significantly lower postoperative opioid consumption than those in the placebo group (median, 55.8 versus 72.4 mg, respectively). In self-assessment of pain, significantly more women in the ropivacaine group scored visual analogue scale score

Citation: Superior hypogastric plexus block beneficial after hysterectomy (2016, June 23) retrieved 4 May 2024 from

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