

Opioids may not be needed for acute pain control after vasectomy

October 17 2019



Opioids do not provide improved pain control following a vasectomy

and may be tied to a higher risk for persistent use, according to a study published in the October issue of *The Journal of Urology*.

David W. Barham, M.D., from Tripler Army Medical Center in Honolulu, and colleagues retrospectively reviewed the charts of 228 patients who underwent [vasectomy](#) in the clinic between April 2017 and March 2018. Encounters with a medical provider for scrotal pain within 30 days as well as subsequent or persistent [opioid prescriptions](#) were compared between patients who received [opioid](#) prescriptions at the time of vasectomy and those who did not.

The researchers found that 44.7 percent of patients received opioid prescriptions at the time of vasectomy. There were no statistically significant differences between the opioid and nonopioid groups regarding subsequent encounters for scrotal pain (12.7 versus 18.4 percent). In the opioid group, the incidence of new persistent opioid use was 7.8 percent compared with 1.5 percent in the nonopioid group.

"In the face of an opioid epidemic urologists should take action to limit over prescription of opioids after vasectomy," the authors write.

More information: [Abstract/Full Text](#)

Copyright © 2019 [HealthDay](#). All rights reserved.

Citation: Opioids may not be needed for acute pain control after vasectomy (2019, October 17) retrieved 9 April 2024 from <https://medicalxpress.com/news/2019-10-opioids-acute-pain-vasectomy.html>

This document is subject to copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private study or research, no part may be reproduced without the written permission. The content is provided for information purposes only.
