

Managing postoperative pain in adults: the role of acute pain services in the UK

Summary

Effective control of postoperative pain is valued highly by patients and carries significant clinical, economic and social benefits. Recognition that postoperative pain management in the NHS (as elsewhere) had been deficient for many years led to national policy encouraging the introduction of 'acute pain services' (APSs) from the early 1990s. Through a postal survey of all NHS acute pain services followed by case studies of three services, this study explored the extent to which acute pain services have been set up in alignment with national guidance and the nature of the implementation challenges they face.

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Status

Completed

Publications

Powell AE, Davies HTO, Bannister J, Macrae WA (2004) Rhetoric and reality on acute pain services in the UK: a national postal questionnaire survey. *British Journal of Anaesthesia* 92 (5): 689-693 (<http://sdhi.files.wordpress.com/2011/10/bja-2004.pdf>)

Powell AE, Davies HTO, Bannister J, Macrae WA (2009) Challenge of improving postoperative pain management: case studies of three acute pain services in the UK National Health Service. *British Journal of Anaesthesia* 102 (6): 824-831 (<http://sdhi.files.wordpress.com/2011/10/bja-2009.pdf>)

Powell AE, Davies HTO, Bannister J, Macrae WA (2009) Understanding the challenges of service change – learning from acute pain services in the UK. *Journal of the Royal Society of Medicine* 102: 62-68 (<http://sdhi.files.wordpress.com/2011/10/jrsm-2009.pdf>)