

Dr Laura Waters

Mortimer Market Centre, London

Fourth Joint Conference *of the* British HIV Association *with the* British Association for Sexual Health and HIV
Edinburgh International Conference Centre ♦ 17–20 April 2018

Advances in general medicine for 2018

Laura Waters
Consultant Physician
CNWL, Mortimer Market Centre, London

Disclosures

- Conference support, speaker/advisory fees from Gilead, ViiV, Janssen & MSD
- Investigator on Gilead & Janssen trials

Content

- Chronic pain & opioids
- Hypertension goals
- Mystery topic

Content

- **Chronic pain & opioids**
- Hypertension goals
- Mystery topic

Apology

- Some focus will be on NICE guidelines therefore Anglocentric

CHRONIC PAIN/OPIOIDS

The WHO analgesic ladder

“Our mistake is to treat chronic pain as if it were acute or end of life pain”

Ballantyne JC. BMJ 2016; 352

Background

- Chronic pain common & difficult to manage
 - 48% with chronic pain have depression
- Epidemic of opioid-related harm in USA; in 2015 among US civilian non-institutionalized adults¹:
 - Almost 40% used prescription opioids & 4.7% misused
- New NICE guidelines are pending....

NICE guidelines

NICE National Institute for
Health and Care Excellence

NICE
Pathways

NICE
Guidance

Search NICE...

Home > NICE Guidance > Conditions and diseases > Musculoskeletal conditions > Low back pain

Chronic pain: assessment and management

In development [GID-NG10069] Expected publication date: 20 January 2020 [Register as a stakeholder](#)

Project information

Project documents

Status	In progress
Developed As	CG
Provisional Schedule	
Draft guidance consultation	22 July 2019 - 03 September 2019
Expected publication	20 January 2020

Related NICE guidance

**Endometriosis
2017**

**Spondyloarthritis
2017**

**Neuropathic pain
2017**

**Multimorbidity
2016**

**Low back pain &
sciatica 2016**

**Strong opioids
palliative care 2016**

**Controlled drugs
2016**

**Rheumatoid
arthritis 2015**

**Headaches
2015**

**Workplace health
2015**

**Osteoarthritis
2014**

**Common mental
health problems
2011**

**Depression +
chronic health
2009**

**Depression
2009**

**PTSD
2005**

Particularly worth a read....

NICE National Institute for Health and Care Excellence

[NICE Pathways](#)

[NICE Guidance](#)

[Standards and indicators](#)

[Evidence services](#)

Search NICE...

[Home](#) > [NICE Guidance](#) > [Service delivery, organisation and staffing](#) > [Medicines management](#) > [Medicines management: general and other](#)

Medicines optimisation: the safe and effective use of medicines to enable the best possible outcomes

[NICE guideline \[NG5\]](#) Published date: March 2015 [Uptake of this guidance](#)

In the mean time....

- NICE Advice
- BMJ Editorial
- BMA briefing report
- Opioids aware

NICE advice....

NICE National Institute for
Health and Care Excellence

NICE

NICE advice

NICE's advice programmes consists of a range of products that are either based on NICE guidance or involve a critical assessment of relevant evidence. However, these products do not have the status of formal NICE guidance, and do not contain new NICE recommendations.

nice.org.uk/guidance/ktt21

Key points

- **Low back pain = main cause of disability worldwide & the NICE low back pain guidelines recommend:**
 - Risk stratification tool: STarT back <https://www.keele.ac.uk/sbst/>
 - NSAIDs; opioids for acute use only when NSAIDs unsuitable
 - Amitriptyline, duloxetine, gabapentin or pregabalin for sciatica
- **Little evidence to support opioids for long-term pain**

BMJ Editorial

Set realistic expectations

Recognise limitations of pain medications

Add psychological & physical therapies

consider integrative approaches e.g.
acupuncture & mind-body therapy

Treat underlying conditions &
use multiple medications

including muscle relaxants, antidepressants,
anticonvulsants, and topical agents as well as
conventional analgesics

BMA briefing papers on analgesics

BMA



Home > Our collective voice > Policy and research > Public and population health > Analgesic use

Last updated: 12 March 2018

Analgesic use



- 2,000 opioid deaths E&W 2015
- Rising opioid use, £330m/yr UK
- Pain = major end of life concern
- BMA conducted 'dialogue events' across UK in 2015: >500 doctors & members of public
- Access patchy, particularly for non-cancer terminal illness

Highlights

CHRONIC PAIN

- Long-term opioid pain research, including efficacy & safety >6/12
- Primary care investment e.g. longer appointments
- Provider/commissioner collaboration for multi-disciplinary services
- Non-pharmacological options
- Education & training, pain as an undergraduate competency

END OF LIFE CARE

- Promote existing guidance, including to non-specialists
- Age is not be a barrier to opioid use
- Address HCP anxieties about analgesic prescribing
- Better identification/referral of non-cancer terminal illness
- Education & training

“Opioids aware”

- Web-based, **PHE-funded & Faculty of Pain Medicine** hosted (Royal College of Anaesthetists)
- **Developed by HCPs & policy groups:**
 - Several medical royal colleges
 - Royal Pharmaceutical Society, British Pain Society
 - Public Health England, NHS England, NICE
 - Care Quality Commission, NHS Business Services Authority
- www.fpm.ac.uk/faculty-of-pain-medicine/opioids-aware

Opioids aware

1. Opioids are very good analgesics for acute pain and for pain at the end of life but there is little evidence that they are helpful for long term pain

2. A small proportion of patients may benefit if the dose is carefully titrated, but it is difficult to

3. The risk of addiction is low for most patients, but for those with a history of addiction or a family history of addiction, the risk is higher. A dose of 120mg/c

4. If a patient is addicted to opioids, the addiction should be discontinued and the patient should be referred to a specialist for further assessment and management.

5. Chronic pain is a complex condition and requires a multidisciplinary approach. In particular, if they are on high opioid doses, a very detailed assessment of the many emotional influences on their pain experience is essential.

Who are the guidelines for?

Healthcare professionals working with patients who take opioids
Healthcare professionals working with patients who may be addicted to prescribed opioids

the long-term
ever it is

equivalent

and should

g symptoms,

Driving



England & Wales legislation update 2015

- Long illegal to drive 'impaired'
- In 2015, 8 illicit (zero tolerance) & 8 medicinal drugs (level/impairment dependent) added to legislation

England & Wales legislation update 2015

'Medicinal' drug	Blood threshold
Clonazepam	50 mcg/L
Diazepam	550 mcg/L
Flunitrazepam	300 mcg/L
Lorazepam	100 mcg/L
Methadone	500 mcg/L
Morphine	80 mcg/L
Oxazepam	300 mcg/L
Temazepam	1,000 mcg/L

Other nations

- **Ireland¹**
 - Road Traffic Act updated in 2017 to include ‘mandatory intoxicant checkpoints’ which include testing for opiates & benzodiazepines
 - Illegal to drive while **impaired** under influence of listed drugs (and at all if cannabis, cocaine, heroin)
- **Scotland & Northern Ireland²:**
 - Illegal to drive while **impaired** by drugs but there no specific limits or roadside testing (yet)

1. <http://www.rsa.ie/en/Utility/News/2017/GARDAI-CAN-NOW-TEST-MOTORISTS-FOR-DRUGS-AT-THE-ROADSIDE/> accessed 10th April 2018

2. <https://www.gov.uk/drug-driving-law> accessed 10th April 2018

Your responsibility

- It is the responsibility of **prescribers & suppliers** of medicines to give suitable clinical advice to patients regarding the likely risks of their medicines...which might include the advice that the drug may cause sleepiness and so **might impair driving**
- It is a driver's responsibility to decide whether they consider their driving is, or they believe might be, impaired on any given occasion

Consent....Bolam no longer enough

***“REASONABLE CARE TO ENSURE THAT THE
PATIENT IS AWARE OF ANY MATERIAL
RISKS INVOLVED IN ANY RECOMMENDED
TREATMENT, AND OF ANY REASONABLE
ALTERNATIVE OR VARIANT TREATMENTS”***

Summary

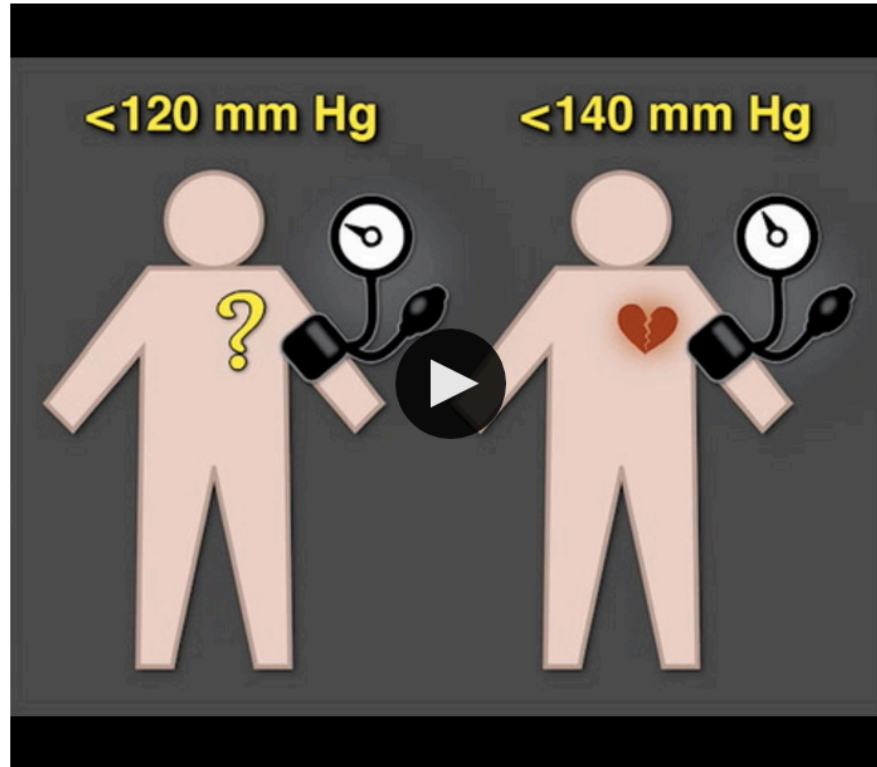
- Montgomery v Lanarkshire Health Board; UK Supreme Court decision 11 March 2015
- Case of should dystocia in an infant born by NVD to a diabetic woman who was not warned of 9-10% risk
- **Implications:**
 - ‘Bolam test’ no longer applies to issue of consent
 - The law now requires a doctor to take *“reasonable care to ensure that the patient is aware of any material risks involved in any recommended treatment, and of any reasonable alternative or variant treatments”*
 - Brings law into line with GMC guidance

HYPERTENSION GOALS

SPRINT trial

- **Large US hypertension treatment trial in adults at high risk of CVD:**
 - Standard arm: SBP goal <140mmHg
 - Intensive arm SBP goal <120mmHg
- **Terminated early**
 - Fewer CV events & deaths in intensive group
 - BUT more serious adverse events & effect heterogeneous

NEJM quick take



Change to American Heart Association guidelines 2017

- **Lower target BP:** 130/80, from 140/90, for most
- **Stage 1 hypertension threshold lowered:**
 - Average SBP 130-139 or DBP 80-89 mmHg
 - If estimated atherosclerotic risk <10% = **lifestyle only**
 - If diabetes, renal disease, ≥65 yrs or CV risk >10% = **+ drug treatment**
- **Stage 2 hypertension threshold ≥140/≥90 from ≥160/≥100:**
 - Drug treatment regardless of atherosclerotic risk
- **Most requiring drug treatment should start with 2 agents:**
 - Particularly Black individuals or people with stage 3 hypertension

Impact of change on US adults

- 46% will be classified as hypertensive (from 32%)
- 53% already on anti-hypertensives have BP >130/80 target
 - 29 million people will need to intensify treatment
- 14% not on anti-hypertensives have BP 130-139/80-89 and 1 in 3 of these meet treatment indications
 - 4 million will need to start treatment

A European perspective

Circulation

PERSPECTIVE

**Perspective From Sweden on the Global Impact of
the 2017 American College of Cardiology/American
Heart Association Hypertension Guidelines**

A “Sprint” Beyond Evidence in the United States

Current NICE hypertension definitions

Definitions



In this guideline the following definitions are used.

- **Stage 1 hypertension** Clinic blood pressure is 140/90 mmHg or higher **and** subsequent ambulatory blood pressure monitoring (ABPM) daytime average or home blood pressure monitoring (HBPM) average blood pressure is 135/85 mmHg or higher.
- **Stage 2 hypertension** Clinic blood pressure is 160/100 mmHg or higher **and** subsequent ABPM daytime average or HBPM average blood pressure is 150/95 mmHg or higher.
- **Severe hypertension** Clinic systolic blood pressure is 180 mmHg or higher **or** clinic diastolic blood pressure is 110 mmHg or higher.

What's next?

PULSE
At the heart of
general practice
since 1960

 **OPINION**
Doc Martin could soon be a thing of the past

 **NEWS** ↓ **VIEWS** ↓ **CLINICAL** ↓ **YOUR PRACTICE** ↓ **HOT TOPICS** ↓ **TRAINEE PULSE** **MAGAZINE** **EVENTS** 

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NICE 'considering' evidence to cut treatment threshold for hypertension

8 March 2018 | By Elisabeth Mahase



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EMAIL TO A FRIEND

EXCLUSIVE NICE is considering new evidence which led to drastically lowered hypertension thresholds in the US, Pulse has learned.

The clinical advisory body, which is currently reviewing UK hypertension guidelines with a view to updating them in August 2019, told Pulse the reviews were 'asking the same questions'.

#pulselive **PULSE LIVE**
Birmingham
19 June 2018
National Conference
Centre
[Find out more](#)



MOST POPULAR

MOST COMMENTED



GP leaders brand immigration officers' request for patient address 'appalling'

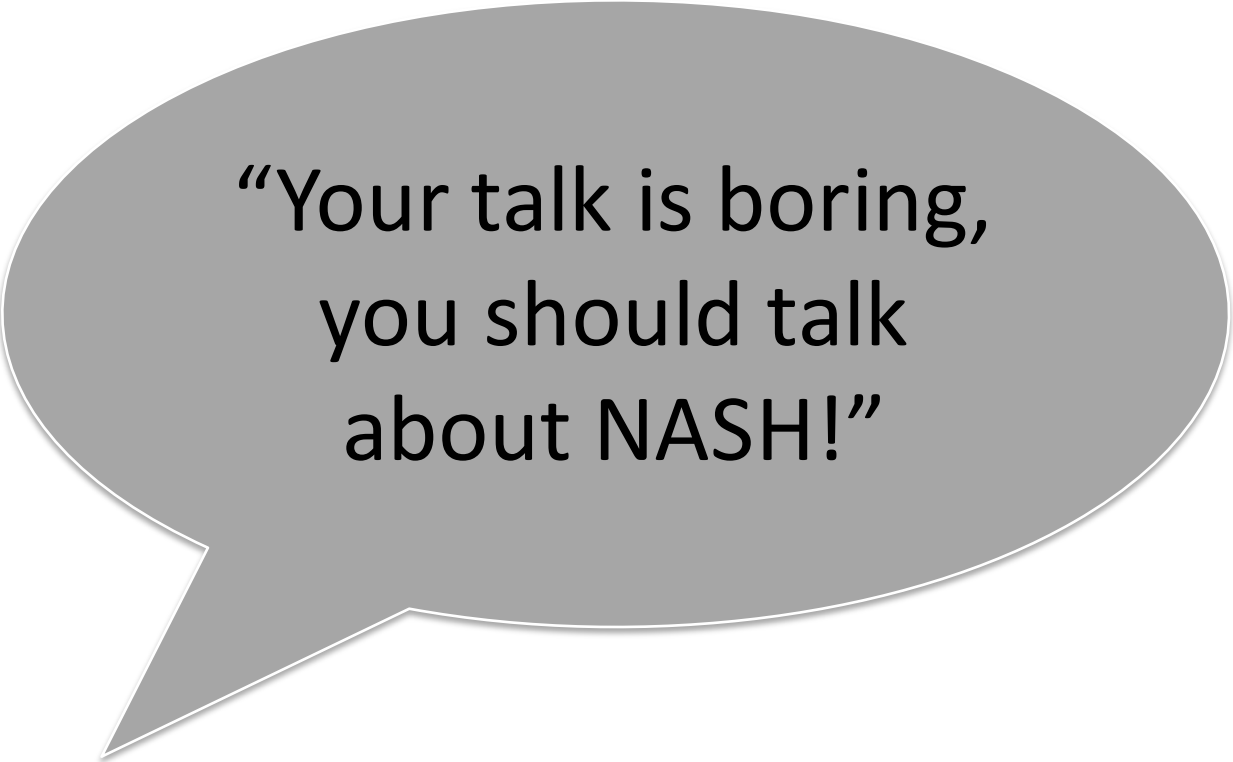
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NICE: step 1 drugs

Drug class	Indication	Drug interactions
ACEI & ARB	Adults <55	ACEIs: no major interactions with ART Losartan: potential weak interaction via CYP2C9 (EFV, EVG, RTV)
CCBs	>55 & Black African or Caribbean origin	Amlodipine: predicted 2-fold ↑ with boosters & ↓ with EFV Lercanidipine: 15-fold increase with ketoconazole contra-indicated with boosters, possible ↓ with EFV
Thiazide-like diuretics	CCB not suitable	Chlortalidone: no predicted DDI with ARVs Indapimide: extensive P450 metabolism, possible ↑ with boosters and ↓ with EFV

MYSTERY TOPIC

My mistake....



“Your talk is boring,
you should talk
about NASH!”

So I will.....

Can Drinking Coffee Cure NASH or Liver Fibrosis?



COFFEE

Liver benefits

- Coffee protective in several observational studies/meta-analyses for:
 - Cirrhosis progression
 - NAFLD
 - NASH progression
- Other caffeinated drinks **not** protective
- De-caffeinated coffee **is** protective

Umbrella review



[BMJ](#). 2017; 359: j5024.

PMCID: PMC5696634

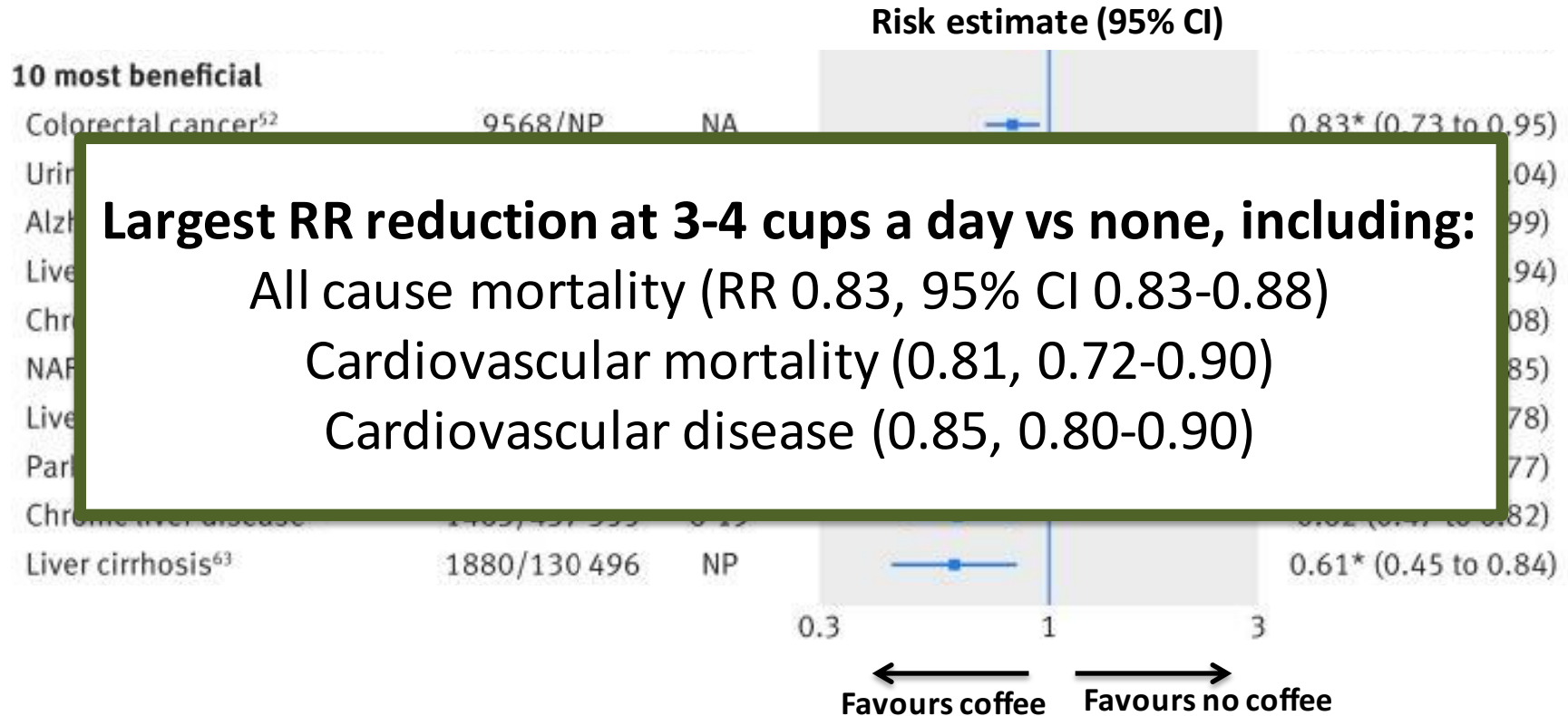
Published online 2017 Nov 21. doi: [10.1136/bmj.j5024](https://doi.org/10.1136/bmj.j5024)

PMID: [29167102](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/29167102/)

Coffee consumption and health: umbrella review of meta-analyses of multiple health outcomes

[Robin Poole](#), specialty registrar in public health,¹ [Oliver J Kennedy](#), graduate medical student,¹ [Paul Roderick](#), professor of public health,¹ [Jonathan A Fallowfield](#), NHS Research Scotland senior clinical fellow,² [Peter C Hayes](#), professor of hepatology,² and [Julie Parkes](#), associate professor of public health¹

Results



The big question!



Thank you!

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lwaters@nhs.net



@drlaurajwaters