

# Does adding intravenous dexamethasone to paravertebral block augment postoperative analgesia in breast cancer patients?

<b>Submission date</b> 23/06/2017	<b>Recruitment status</b> No longer recruiting	<input type="checkbox"/> Prospectively registered <input type="checkbox"/> Protocol
<b>Registration date</b> 29/06/2017	<b>Overall study status</b> Completed	<input type="checkbox"/> Statistical analysis plan <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Results
<b>Last Edited</b> 04/01/2019	<b>Condition category</b> Surgery	<input type="checkbox"/> Individual participant data

## Plain English summary of protocol

### Background and study aims

Breast cancer normally requires surgery as a treatment, either to remove a lump or to remove the entire breast tissue. An important aspect of surgery is the anesthetic in order to not feel pain during the operation. There are different types of anesthetics that have different benefits. A paravertebral block (PVB) is a method that provides an analgesic effect (pain control) with less sedation (a medication to put people to sleep). Adding an intravenous dexamethasone (a steroid medication that is added to the veins through a needle) could be beneficial to patients to help control inflammatory conditions when given in addition to a PVB. The aim of this study is to evaluate if intravenous dexamethasone augments the analgesic effect of paravertebral block in breast cancer surgery.

### Who can participate?

Adults aged 18-80 who are undergoing surgery for breast cancer

### What does the study involve?

Participants are randomly allocated to one of two groups. Participants receive the standard operating care prior to surgery. Those in the first group receive a paravertebral nerve block as well as intravenous dexamethasone added to it. Those in the second group receive the PVB only. All participants receive standard care. Participants are observed every two hours for 72 hours after surgery for pain, nausea, vomiting, side effects, and to see if any other pain medication is taken.

### What are the possible benefits and risks of participating?

Participants may benefit from a longer lasting analgesic effect. There are no risks with participating.

### Where is the study run from?

National Cancer Institute, Cairo University (Egypt)

When is the study starting and how long is it expected to run for?  
March 2017 to September 2017

Who is funding the study?  
National Cancer Institute, Cairo University (Egypt)

Who is the main contact?  
Dr Ahmed Bakeer  
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## Contact information

**Type(s)**  
Scientific

**Contact name**  
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## Additional identifiers

**EudraCT/CTIS number**

**IRAS number**

**ClinicalTrials.gov number**

**Secondary identifying numbers**  
201617016.2p

## Study information

**Scientific Title**  
Intravenous dexamethasone augments the analgesic effect of paravertebral block for cancer breast surgery: a prospective randomised placebo-controlled study

**Study objectives**  
The aim of this study is to evaluate if intravenous dexamethasone augments the analgesic effect of paravertebral block in breast cancer surgery.

**Ethics approval required**

Old ethics approval format

**Ethics approval(s)**

Ethical Committee of National Cancer Institute, Cairo University, 18/6/2017, ref: 201617016

**Study design**

Observational prospective randomised placebo controlled study

**Primary study design**

Interventional

**Secondary study design**

Randomised controlled trial

**Study setting(s)**

Hospital

**Study type(s)**

Treatment

**Participant information sheet**

No participant information sheet available

**Health condition(s) or problem(s) studied**

Female patients undergoing surgery for breast cancer

**Interventions**

Participants are randomly allocated to one of two groups. Participants receive the standard operating care prior to surgery.

Intervention group: Participants in this group receive a paravertebral nerve block (PVB) as well as an intravenous dexamethasone added to it. Surgery is then continued as to the standard level of care.

Control group: Participants receive the PVB and the standard care.

Participants are observed every two hours for 72 hours post-operatively for pain, nausea, vomiting, if any other analgesic taken and when sensation returns. Any side effects, nausea or vomiting are recorded for 72 hours.

**Intervention Type**

Drug

**Phase**

Not Applicable

**Drug/device/biological/vaccine name(s)**

paravertebral nerve block, intravenous dexamethasone

**Primary outcome measure**

1. Pain is measured using the visual analogue score (VAS) at every two hours during the 72 hours post operation
2. Time of return sensation is measures using patient interviews at every two hours during the 72 hours post operation
3. Analgesic taken is measured using patient records at every two hours during the 72 hours post operation

**Secondary outcome measures**

1. Nausea is measured using patient records at every two hours during the 72 hours post operation
2. Vomiting is measured using patient records at every two hours during the 72 hours post operation
3. Side effects and complications measured using patient records at every two hours during the 72 hours post operation

**Overall study start date**

01/02/2017

**Completion date**

01/09/2017

**Eligibility****Key inclusion criteria**

1. Patients for breast cancer surgery ASA1-3
2. Aged from 18-80

**Participant type(s)**

Patient

**Age group**

Adult

**Lower age limit**

18 Years

**Upper age limit**

80 Years

**Sex**

Female

**Target number of participants**

50 patients in 2 groups

**Key exclusion criteria**

1. Coagulopathy
2. Allergy to drugs in study
3. Refusal to participate

- 4. Severe renal, hepatic or lung disease
- 5. Chronic opioid use

**Date of first enrolment**

01/03/2017

**Date of final enrolment**

01/08/2017

## Locations

**Countries of recruitment**

Egypt

**Study participating centre**

**National Cancer Institute, Cairo University**

Al Kasr Al Aini

Fom Al Khalig WA Deir an Nahas

Misr Al Qadimah

Cairo Governorate

Cairo

Egypt

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## Sponsor information

**Organisation**

National Cancer Institute, Cairo University

**Sponsor details**

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Fom Al Khalig WA Deir an Nahas

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**Sponsor type**

Hospital/treatment centre

**ROR**

<https://ror.org/03q21mh05>

# Funder(s)

## Funder type

University/education

## Funder Name

National Cancer Institute, Cairo University

# Results and Publications

## Publication and dissemination plan

Planned publication in a high impact peer reviewed journal.

## Intention to publish date

01/08/2018

## Individual participant data (IPD) sharing plan

The datasets generated during and/or analysed during the current study are/will be available upon request from Dr Ahmed Baker at [ahmed\\_bakir76@yahoo.com](mailto:ahmed_bakir76@yahoo.com).

## IPD sharing plan summary

Available on request

## Study outputs

Output type	Details	Date created	Date added	Peer reviewed?	Patient-facing?
<a href="#">Results article</a>	results	19/12/2018		Yes	No