

# Sublingual methadone for the management of cancer-related breakthrough pain in outpatients

<b>Submission date</b> 01/05/2006	<b>Recruitment status</b> Stopped	<input type="checkbox"/> Prospectively registered <input type="checkbox"/> Protocol
<b>Registration date</b> 06/07/2006	<b>Overall study status</b> Stopped	<input type="checkbox"/> Statistical analysis plan <input type="checkbox"/> Results
<b>Last Edited</b> 31/01/2019	<b>Condition category</b> Cancer	<input type="checkbox"/> Individual participant data <input type="checkbox"/> Record updated in last year

**Plain English summary of protocol**  
Not provided at time of registration

## Contact information

**Type(s)**  
Scientific

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## Additional identifiers

**EudraCT/CTIS number**

**IRAS number**

**ClinicalTrials.gov number**  
NCT00351715

**Secondary identifying numbers**  
N/A

# Study information

## Scientific Title

Sublingual methadone for the management of cancer-related breakthrough pain in outpatients: a phase II multicentre, open label, feasibility study

## Acronym

SLM OUTPT

## Study objectives

The overall hypothesis is that sublingual methadone, once optimal dose has been reached, will relieve moderate to severe breakthrough pain within five minutes in at least half of episodes evaluated.

## Ethics approval required

Old ethics approval format

## Ethics approval(s)

Conjoint Health Research Ethics Board, original approval 18th May 2006; amendment approval 5th October 2006.

## Study design

Open label feasibility study

## Primary study design

Interventional

## Secondary study design

Cohort study

## Study setting(s)

Hospital

## Study type(s)

Treatment

## Participant information sheet

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

Cancer-related breakthrough pain

## Interventions

Sublingual methadone

## Intervention Type

Drug

## Phase

Not Applicable

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

Methadone

**Primary outcome measure**

To demonstrate the feasibility of a novel model to assess sublingual methadone to breakthrough pain in the outpatient setting. Specific aspects of feasibility are:

1. To demonstrate the feasibility of recruitment to a study for incident pain in the outpatient setting
2. Feasibility of dose titration in the outpatient setting
3. Feasibility of filling out the pain assessments
4. Provide preliminary evidence of efficacy
5. Provide further information to document safety of the model

**Secondary outcome measures**

1. To develop a model of pharmacokinetic (PK) and pharmacodynamic (PD) study of breakthrough pain
2. To develop a research tool, the Breakthrough Pain Assessment Tool (BPAT)
3. To demonstrate proof of concept, with half of patients obtaining meaningful pain reduction within five minutes of administration, when given the identified optimal dose

**Overall study start date**

01/06/2006

**Completion date**

31/12/2007

**Reason abandoned (if study stopped)**

Participant recruitment issue

## **Eligibility**

**Key inclusion criteria**

Patients aged 18 years and older are eligible if they have:

1. Pain due to cancer or its treatment
2. Controlled baseline pain
3. Episodes of breakthrough pain every day that are 4/10 in severity or greater, last ten minutes or longer, and are responsive to short acting oral opioids such as morphine or hydromorphone
4. Able to hold a volume of 1.0 cc of water under the tongue for a five minute period
5. Able to provide written, informed consent
6. Able to fill out the study forms

**Participant type(s)**

Patient

**Age group**

Adult

**Lower age limit**

18 Years

**Sex**

Both

**Target number of participants**

42

**Key exclusion criteria**

1. Severe underlying respiratory disease such that the investigator is wary about the risk of respiratory failure from modest doses of opioid
2. Prior sensitivity to methadone
3. Currently taking methadone
4. Breakthrough pain that in the opinion of the investigator is likely to change within the next seven days as a result of any of the following:
  - 4.1. Recent or imminent radiation therapy to the main site of pain
  - 4.2. New use of chemotherapy
  - 4.3. Use of an injectable bisphosphonate likely to alter the pain
  - 4.4. New use of corticosteroids within the past week with a corresponding change in pain
  - 4.5. Other interventions judged likely to alter the pain
5. Are clinically unstable or have a life expectancy of less than one month making completion of the trial unlikely

**Date of first enrolment**

01/06/2006

**Date of final enrolment**

31/12/2007

**Locations****Countries of recruitment**

Canada

**Study participating centre**

**Room 374**

Calgary

Canada

T2N 4N1

**Sponsor information****Organisation**

Alberta Cancer Board (Canada)

**Sponsor details**

1220 Standard Life Building  
10405 Jasper Avenue  
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Canada  
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**Sponsor type**  
Charity

**Website**  
<http://www.cancerboard.ab.ca/>

**ROR**  
<https://ror.org/01k1b2g25>

## **Funder(s)**

**Funder type**  
Charity

**Funder Name**  
Alberta Cancer Board (Canada) - Competition (ref: 4640)

**Funder Name**  
Infrastructural support by Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) grant number: PET 69772 - we received funding for Difficult Pain Problems NET Grant. The monies received were to provide infrastructural support for research or network activities across Canada.

## **Results and Publications**

**Publication and dissemination plan**  
Not provided at time of registration

**Intention to publish date**

**Individual participant data (IPD) sharing plan**

**IPD sharing plan summary**  
Not provided at time of registration