Study of narcotic and non-narcotic analgesic drugs usage in Faculty of Dentistry, Chulalongkorn University

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Analgesic drugs have been most frequently prescribed agents by dentists. The objective of this study was to analyze the prescribing patterns of narcotic and non-narcotic analgesic drugs (NAD and non-NAD) in Faculty of Dentistry, Chulalongkorn University. A retrospective study was conducted to review analgesic drug use from prescription forms during the period of 2000-2002 and from the medical records of the admitted patients in 2002. The number of prescriptions written is used as a measure of non-NAD use. During the 3 year-period, non-NAD were prescribed 69.62 percent of overall prescriptions. Paracetamol was the most frequently prescribed, followed by Ibuprofen (48.22 and 29.82 percent of total analgesic drug prescriptions). Usage of Paracetamol decreased while of Ibuprofen fluctuated. The number of doses was used as measures of NAD use. There were 804 doses for NAD. The percentage of usage of Morphine, Pethidine and Fentanyl were 52.74, 24.25 and 23.01, resp[ectively. This research could be the basis of study to appropriately use of NAD and non-NAD in the future.

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