

**PE-59. SENSATIONS EVOKED BY INTRAVENOUS LIDOCAINE IN CHRONIC PAIN PATIENTS**

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We report here symptoms chronic pain patients reported when given lidocaine intravenously while supine. Subjects (n = 39) were patients with chronic pain who consented (after Institutional Review Board for the Protection of Human Subjects approval of the study) to receive 1 mg/kg lidocaine intravenously over 2.5 minutes. The subjects were asked to describe any sensations (including change in pain intensity) they experienced during the injection and for 60 minutes after injection. Seventy-six percent of the subjects reported experiencing one to four symptoms that lasted less than or equal to 10 minutes. The most common symptoms, dizziness and perioral numbness (Table), each occurred in about 1/3 of the subjects, and about 1/3 experienced reduction in their pain. The symptoms and incidence of symptoms differed from a previous study in patients given IV lidocaine prior to chemotherapy for breast cancer(1). We conclude that medication taken by chronic pain patients may modify by neurotropic actions and/or by induction of liver enzymes that biotransform lidocaine, the incidence, intensity and nature of symptoms produced by IV lidocaine.

1. *Anti-Cancer Drugs* 7 (1996):846-850)

Symptom	Incidence
Light headed	2
Relaxed	2
Dizzy	12
Perioral numbness	12
Pressure (neck, chest, head)	3
Metallic taste	5
Nausea	4
Ears plugged	6
Distant feeling	2
Tinnitus	4
Visual disturbance	2
Headache	1
Dry mouth	1
Nervousness	1
Sleepy (tired, head heavy)	2
None	8
Reduction in pain	12