

LETS SAY NO TO ORO-FACIAL PAIN

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OVERVIEW

Pain is always a subjective phenomenon experienced by an individual. Although pain is now recognized as being more of an experience than a sensation that recognizes the nature of initiating stimulus including its quality, intensity, location and duration. Chronic Pain has both physiological and psychological components. An experience of poorly managed pain related to underlying cause can lead patients to avoid or postpone treatment, as well as make them more difficult to treat and less likely to comply with prescribed regimens. With the changing concepts of chronic pain represented in body, mind & person, diagnosis and management require the broad understanding of people on the part of attending clinician.

INTRODUCTION

Chronic Orofacial pain is collective term used for a number of complex orofacial pain and dysfunction disorders including TMJ disorders, neuropathic pain, non odontogenic pain, musculoskeletal pain, neurovascular pain, Neuralgias, referred pain, headache, eagle's syndrome, oromotor dysfunction, cancer related pain and mandibular behavioral disorders, resulting in symptoms of chronic head, neck and orofacial pain. Diagnosis is by far the most difficult aspect of managing a patient's orofacial pain. This poster presentation highlights various chronic orofacial pain conditions and importance of various treatment modalities adapted for the management of chronic oro-facial pain.

ODONTOGENIC PAIN



ORO-MUCOSAL



ULCERS



CANCER PAIN



POST-CHEMO/RT MUCOSITIS



TMJ PAIN



TRIGEMINAL NEURALGIA



POST-HERPETIC NEURALGIA

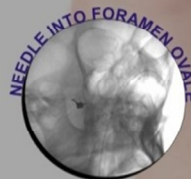


GLOSSOPHARYNGEAL NEURALGIA



METHODOLOGY

• A multi-disciplinary approach towards the treatment of chronic oro-facial pain can be deemed as the call of the hour. Pain relief may be achieved by a variety of means and the treatment must be customized to the individual with drug treatment, image guided interventions (like nerve or ganglion blocks and other neurolytic or ablative procedures), physiological and behavioral approaches geared to the patient's needs. Prevention, assessment, diagnosis, treatment, and rehabilitation of orofacial pain disorders should be offered to the patient as a complete package. Aggressive treatments like Gasserian ganglion block, Glossopharyngeal block, Sphenopalatine block etc are the keys for sustain relief of chronic orofacial pain.



NEEDLE INTO FORAMEN OVALE



LOCALIZATION OF STYLOID LIGAMENT

NON-PHARMACOLOGICAL MANAGEMENT

- Patient education and self-care
- Physical Therapy (TENS, Ultrasonic massage, shortwave diathermy etc. for TMJ pain disorders)
- Acupuncture

Minimally – Invasive Pain Relief Interventional Management

- Intra-lesional Injections (steroids) (For chronic non-healing ulcers)
- Intra-articular injections for TMJ
- Prolozone Treatment
- Alcohol blocks for peripheral Mandibular, maxillary, Mental, Supraorbital, Infraorbital nerves etc.
- Selective Radiofrequency Thermocoagulation of Gasserian Ganglion
- Alcohol blockade at gasserian ganglion
- Retrogasserian rhizotomy
- Glossopharyngeal Nerve Block / RF Ablation
- Sphenopalatine Ganglion Block

MANAGEMENT



INTRA-LESIONAL INJECTIONS



TENS THERAPY



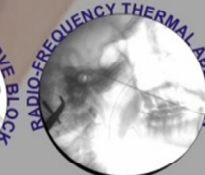
INTRA-ARTICULAR INJECTIONS

SURGICAL TREATMENT

- Nerve resection and avulsion
- Electrosurgery
- Cryosurgery
- Intracranial nerve decompression
- Peripheral neurectomy



GLOSSOPHARYNGEAL NERVE BLOCK



RADIO-FREQUENCY THERMAL ABLATION

MEDICAL MANAGEMENT

- Dental Management
- Treatment of underlying cause
- Topical anesthetics, analgesics
- NSAID'S
- Anti – neuropathic pain medication (Amitriptyline, Gabapentin, Pregabalin, Carbamazepine)
- Opioids

CONCLUSION

An interdisciplinary management with judicious use of pharmacological, non-pharmacological and minimally-invasive, image guided interventions are required to treat chronic oro-facial pain. Eliciting the proper etiology and diagnosing oro-facial pain is the more difficult aspect of managing the patient's pain problem. A combined approach from the oral physician and pain physicians might open new doors for those suffering from chronic oro-facial pain.