

"Integrative Medicine in Palliative Care"

Coleman Palliative Medicine Conference Friday, September 16, 2016 Sonia Oyola, MD University of Chicago Pritzker School of Medicine Department of Family Medicine





No disclosures related to the presentation



Objectives

By the end of the talk I hope you are better able to...

- * 1. Describe an integrative (a combo of evidence-based conventional and complementary therapies) approach to relieve pain, nausea/vomiting, dyspnea, depression/anxiety and insomnia
- * 2. Discuss the research supporting various complementary medicine approaches to address the aforementioned conditions
- * 3. List an online resource for investigating drug-herb, drugdisease interactions

How many People Use CAM, What do they use & Why?

- In the United States, approximately 38 percent of adults (about 4 in 10) and approximately 12 percent of children (about 1 in 9) are using some form of CAM.
- Nonvitamin, nonmineral natural products with increasing use of breathing exercises, meditation, massage and yoga.
- Which natural products are most popular?
- What health conditions prompt CAM use?



Why is this relevant? Patient Satisfaction

- Demmer and Sauer^[18] found that patients who received complementary therapies were more satisfied with their hospice services.
- Sirios^[19] compared consumers seeking consultation with CAM practitioners in 1997 and 2005. Consumer motivation changed in that period from use of CAM due to negative attitudes toward conventional medicine to use of CAM modalities for their positive effects and a whole-person, empowered approach to health care.



What is Integrative Medicine?



Integrative Medicine

Integrative Medicine is the practice of medicine that reaffirms the importance of the **relationship** between practitioner and patient, focuses on the **whole person**, is informed by **evidence**, and makes use of **all appropriate therapeutic approaches**, healthcare professionals and disciplines to achieve **optimal health and healing**.



Defining Integrative, Complementary and Alternative Medicine

• Integrative Medicine: <u>combines both</u> conventional and complementary treatments for which there is **evidence of safety** and effectiveness.

- **Complementary Medicine:** any of a range of medical therapies that fall beyond the scope of scientific medicine but may be used alongside it in the treatment of disease and ill health.
- Alternative Medicine: any of a range of medical therapies that are regarded as unorthodox by the medical profession, such as herbalism, homeopathy, and acupuncture.

nccam.nih.gov

The US Joint Commission on Pain Management's Standard as of 1/1/2015

"... Both pharmacologic and nonpharmacologic strategies have a role in the management of pain. The following examples are not exhaustive, but strategies may include the following:

Nonpharmacologic strategies: physical modalities (for example, acupuncture therapy, chiropractic therapy, osteopathic manipulative treatment, massage therapy, and physical therapy), relaxation therapy, and cognitive behavioral therapy."

Mr. R



* 56yr old male with a recent dx of Pancreatic Cancer and a long h/o Anxiety is admitted to your hospital for intractable back pain. He is interested in learning about "other ways", aside from the Morphine SR 45mg bid and Morphine IR 15mg prn he has been prescribed, to control his pain.

Mr. R's Problem List

- Back Pain due to Pancreatic Cancer
- * Depression and Anxiety
- * Nausea and Vomiting
- * Insomnia
- * Dyspnea
- Confusion/Daytime Grogginess
- Family Stress (Caregiver Stress and Teen entering HS)



What is most important to Mr. R?

Pain Control and Mental Clarity





Small Group Discussion about Mr. R (3 minutes)

Work with your small group to discuss therapies that can address any of Mr. R's issues: pain, N/V, insomnia, confusion, Anxiety, Depression and dyspnea, family stress. You may work from any of the following categories:

- Pharmacotherapy
- * Supplements
- * Nutrition
- Physical modalities
- * Mental health modalities
- Mind-body techniques
- Therapies from other whole medical systems



Integrative Medicine and Palliative Care Philosophies



Evidence Updates



Important 1st Pain Management Steps

- * 1. Regularly screen for pain and assess intensity
- * 2. Characterize the pain properly (acute vs. chronic vs. due to cancer or other reasons vs. **somatic**, visceral, neuropathic, is there breakthrough pain?)



Pain Management: Consider the Mind

Depression, anxiety, and spiritual distress can all increase the perception of pain intensity, and addressing these components of pain can reduce the need for pain medication. $.^{[1,][2]}$

Depressed pain-free individuals are **twice as likely** to develop chronic musculoskeletal pain than those who are not depressed. (3)

It's important to screen for Depression and Anxiety. Refer pts for Mindfulness-Based Cognitive Behavioral Therapy.



Pain Management: Optimize Opioids

- No ceiling dose of morphine; careful but rapid titration to achieve relief; dose around the clock; convert IR to SR
- Consider adding acetaminophen/NSAIDS to opioids when pain is moderate-severe and safe to do so
- * Add Gabapentin or TCA for neuropathic pain
- Methadone effectively treats both nociceptive and neuropathic pain but needs expert guidance and monitoring (can cause prolonged QT)
- * Always use a stool softener-goal is BM qod
- * Consider a longer acting formulation, eg. patch, when appropriate, takes 8 to 24 hours to take effect and another 24 for effect to stop once patch removed; avoid in pts who are opioid naive



Pain Management: Spinal Manipulation, Acupuncture and Yoga

- Good evidence that cognitivebehavioral therapy, exercise, spinal manipulation (high velocity, low amplitude chiropractic adjustments), and interdisciplinary rehabilitation are all moderately effective for chronic or subacute (>4 weeks' duration) low back pain.
- Review of clinical trails found that Acupuncture and Yoga had more positive than negative results for the treatment of back pain.



National Center for Complementary and Integrative Health, was published in the journal *Mayo Clinic Proceedings*.

Pain Management: Medical Cannabis and Cannabinoids

Although Mr. R meets qualifying conditions for debilitation under the Illinois' Compassionate Use of Medical Cannabis Pilot Program Act:

* Cancer

Studies are equivocal that cannabis can help relieve Mr. R of his:

- Nausea, vomiting, Neuropathy, Pain, Anxiety
- But the Cannabinoids: Dronabinol and Nabilone have been shown to be effective against chemoinduced N/V



Pain Management: Massage

A Cochrane review of massage and low back pain in 13 trials demonstrated short- and long-term significant relief of low back pain, outperforming acupuncture, relaxation techniques, and other CAM modalities.^[4]

 Numerous research reviews and clinical studies have suggested that at least for the short term, massage therapy for cancer patients may reduce pain, promote relaxation, and boost mood.

However, the National Cancer Institute urges massage therapists to take specific precautions with cancer patients and avoid massaging:

- * Open wounds, bruises, or areas with skin breakdown
- * Directly over the tumor site
- * Areas with a blood clot in a vein
- * Sensitive areas following radiation therapy



Supplements for Pain

- * **Devil's Claw (***Harpagophytum procumbens***)**: appears to be effective in decreasing spine, knee, and hip pain (Chrubasik, 2007; Ernst, 2011). Side efx: GI upset, hypoglycemia and interaction with anticoagulants abd digoxin
- * Willow (Salix alba): Two reviews of clinical trials for back pain found benefits for willow when dosed at 120-240 milligrams of salicin daily (Ernst, 2000, Gagnier, 2006).
- * **Sour Cherry Juice:** 1 tbsp of concentrated syrup mixed in water (for gout and OA)
- * **Glucosamine Sulfate:** start with 3000mg/day (for OA- improves pain and functionality compared to placebo)
- * **Collagen Powder:** 1-2 tbsp. daily dissolved in any liquid (for OA-increases mobility and treats exercise-induced pain)
- * **Turmeric (Curcumin):** in diet and in capsule form: 1-2 caps per day with food (anti-inflammatory effect, OA; depletes substance p like capsaicin, avoid in patients with gall stones/ gall bladder dz
- * Boswellia: 250-400 mg, 2-3 times per day (anti-inflammatory- for OA, RA)
- * **Omega 3 Fatty Acids:** 500 or more EPA + DHA twice daily with food; source of pro-resolution cytokines
- * Vitamin D optimization: 2000 to 4000 units daily, goal-Vit D25OH level at least 40 ng/ml (studied in musculoskeletal pain)

Pain Management: Music Therapy

- Administered by a music therapist; there's active and receptive therapy
- Music therapy was found to relieve pain and to help decrease opioid dose needed.^[4]
- Zimbardo and Gerrig^[5] found that 30 minutes of classical music therapy in an ICU setting equaled the relaxation effects of 10mg of diazepam.
- Optimal treatment periods are 25 to 90 minutes long and not continuous



Mind-Body Medicine for Anxiety, Pain and Stress

- Mind-body therapies are efficacious for chronic pain, anxiety, depression, and insomnia. In a telephone survey of 2055 Americans, 18.9% had used one mind-body therapy in the past year.^[6,7]
- Hypnosis and Guided Imagery have been shown to reduce anxiety, pain, and stress and to promote relaxation. Hypnosis creates a state of "focused awareness and attention," which can facilitate improvements in coping, well-being, and acceptance of death.^[8]



Pain Management: Energy Medicine

- Reiki's goal is to balance the bioenergy fields on a deep vibrational level. Goals are to restore balance, resiliency and promote healing. Focused intention to heal on the part of the practitioner.
- Reiki Therapy may reduce anxiety and pain (45)
- Recent meta-analysis showed inconclusive results.



Integrative-Palliative Pain Management

MBCBT and Pharmacoptherapy

Acupuncture Massage Therapy Integrative Pain Control

> Mind-Body Medicine: Breathwork

Therapy

Music

Depression/Anxiety Management

Mind: Cognitive-based Behavioral Therapy with/out a supplement, botanical or pharmaceutical (consider use of antidepressant or anxiolytic for moderate to severe depression/anxiety)

Mind Body Medicine: (Breathwork, Guided Imagery, Hypnosis); Mindfulness-based Stress Reduction (MBSR)



Depression/Anxiety Management

Body: Avoid caffeine/alcohol; start enjoyable and tolerable physical activity; fresh greens when not contraindicated, Massage; Acupunture; Aromatherapy (Often used with massage)... esp. Lavender oil aromatherapy alone decreased anxiety in 2 studies (9, 10)

Supplements: Omega 3 FA (supplement, fish or flaxseed oil), Vit B6, Folic Acid (400mcg), 5-Hydroxytryptophan (150 to 300mg); Magnesium (citrate, oxide, malate or glycinate): 150-600 mg qd- titrate to BM comfort (citrate or oxide best for constipation)

Botanicals: Kava: avoid in liver dz, Valerian: takes 2 weeks to assess effectiveness, Lemon Balm



Depression/Anxiety Management

Spirit: Chaplain; practicing rituals, ceremonies to alleviate spiritual distress; use of SPIRIT or FICA tool; prayer; "What brings you joy, purpose and meaning?"

TABLE 1	The FICA tool for spiritual assessment ^{13,14}	
1. Faith and belief		Do you have spiritual beliefs that help you cope with stress?
2. Importance		What role do your beliefs have in regaining health?
3. Community		Are you part of a religious or spiritual community? If so, is this of support to you and how?
4. Address in care		How would you like me as your health care professional to address these issues in care?

Integrative-Palliative Depression/Anxiety Management



Nausea/Vomiting Management

Mind: Music Therapy (Harp therapy)- 25 to 90 minutes treatment periods

Music Thanatology= combo of music therapy with spirituality. Goal is to achieve peaceful & conscious death. Music is synchronized to the RR and HR to produce entrainment to a relaxed/sleep state.

In one study of Harp therapy, nausea was reduced in 92% of the patients.



Nausea/Vomiting Management

Body: Pharmaceuticals: prochlorperazine, haloperidol, 5-HT antagonists (ondansetron); use laxatives if nausea due to constipation, use promethazine if N due to infection; use metoclopramide if N due to dysmotility; Acupuncture

Botanicals: Ginger 500 to 1000 mg ginger root extract (boiled to make tea) or eat 1tsp of crystallized ginger; Cannabinoid (dronabinol- 10mg 4x/day)



Integrative-Palliative Nausea-Vomiting Management

Pharma Ginger Tea Cannabinoid

Integrative N/V Control

Acupuncture

Music Therapy



Dyspnea Management

Mind: moderate evidence for breathing training/ Breathing Exercises

Little to no evidence for psychological interventions, acupuncture or music therapy



Dyspnea Management

Body: Oxygen therapy; Morphine; Scopolamine, glycopyrrolate to dry oral secretions; if anxiety present, use of anxiolytics can help; strong evidence for Neuroelectrical muscle stim and chest wall vibration; relieve thirst with small sips and swabbing to keep the mouth moist

Use of fans to keep room wellventilated and cool, ambient temp



Dyspnea Management

Spirit: Chaplain; practicing rituals, ceremonies to alleviate spiritual distress; use of SPIRIT or FICA tool; prayer; "What brings you joy, purpose and meaning?"

TABLE 1	The FICA tool for spiritual assessment ^{13,14}	
1. Faith and belief		Do you have spiritual beliefs that help you cope with stress?
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3. Community		Are you part of a religious or spiritual community? If so, is this of support to you and how?
4. Address in care		How would you like me as your health care professional to address these issues in care?
Integrative-Palliative Dyspnea Management



Integrative Dyspnea Control

Breathing Exercises Spiritual Assessment Chaplain



Insomnia Management

Mind: Cognitive-based Behavioral Therapy with/out a supplement, botanical or pharmaceutical (consider use of antidepressant or anxiolytic for moderate to severe depression/anxiety)

Mind Body Medicine: (Breathwork: 4-7-8, Guided Imagery, Hypnosis) encouraging daily relaxation technique



Insomnia Management

Body: Manage caffeine/alcohol; treat pain; start enjoyable and tolerable physical activity); create a stress-free bedroom sanctuary; expose body to morning sunlight and simulate dusk by dimming lights and removing noise; scheduling sleep

Botanicals:

Valerian: 300 to 900mg standardized extract of 0.8% valerenic acid or 2 to 3gm of dried root steeped for 10minutes taken ½ hour to 2 hours before bedtime (takes 2-4 weeks to assess effectiveness); Melatonin; Lemon Balm



Integrative-Palliative Insomnia Management

MBCBT Pharm Valerian Melatonin MBM: breathwork

Integrative Insomnia Control

Manage Caffeine Treat Pain Create Bedroom Sanctuary



Common Drug-Herb and Disease Herb Interactions

- * Black Cohosh- Liver toxicity (esp with acetaminophen, lipid lowering agents)
- CoQ10- Lowers activity of blood thinners so increased risk of clotting
- Cranberry- Increases blood thinner activity>>>increased bleeding/bruising
- Echinacea- stimulates immune system so can exacerbate asthma and eczema; revs up CYP450 so decreasing effectiveness of meds
- Evening Primrose (contains gammalinoleic acid) which increases blood thinning; can also increase risk of seizures

Common Drug-Herb and Disease Herb Interactions

- Valerian- has over 500 drug interactions, be especially careful with sedatives
- St. John's Wort- DO NOT COMBINE with the followining:<u>SSRIs</u>, <u>TCAs</u>, <u>MAO Inhibitors</u>, <u>nefazodone</u>, <u>triptans for migraine</u>, <u>dextromethorphan</u>, <u>warfarin</u>, <u>birth control pills</u>, <u>certain HIV</u> <u>medications</u>
- * Saw Palmetto- DO NOT COMBINE with Finasteride; slows blood clotting so can lead to bleeding
- Melatonin- Avoid combining with other hypnotics; may increase blood sugar so interferes with hypoglycemics; interferes with blood clotting
- Kava-DO NOT COMBINE with buprenorphine (can cause resp failure and coma); may lead to liver toxicity or failure, avoid with any meds that can also cause liver tox.

Common Drug-Herb and Disease Herb Interactions

- * Ginseng- can interfere with blood thinners and increase clotting; can also have anti-clotting effects
- Ginger-inhibits thromboxane synthetase so can cause prolonged bleeding times

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Guided Imagery Resource



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Free & Low Cost Mindfulness Resources

- * GPS for the Soul
- * Smiling Mind
- * "Mindfulness for Beginners" by Jon Kabat-Zinn
- Kaiser Permanente
 Guided Imagery webpage



Breathwork Exercise Resource: 4-7-8 Breath

- Steps: Exhale, inhale to a count of 4, hold for 7 and exhale for count of 8
- * 3 to 4 cycles 2x/day
- * Powerful anxiolytic
- Increases
 parasympathetic tone



In Summary

- Integrative Medicine and Palliative Care share fundamental goals: to improve quality of life and relieve suffering by attending to the whole person (mind, body and spirit). IM can further augment palliation by the incorporation of complementary modalities.
 - * There is robust and growing high quality evidence that will help guide IM-Palliative Care Plans.
 - * Integrative approaches can be helpful when treating pain, nausea/vomiting, insomnia, depression and anxiety.
 - Being aware of common Drug-Herb and Herb-Disease Interactions will keep your patients safe of unnecessary suffering

Thank You and Questions



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