

ABSTRACT

Charles University in Prague

Faculty of Pharmacy in Hradec Králové

Department of Pharmacology & Toxicology

Student: Stela Pavlíčková

Supervisor: PharmDr. Ludmila Melicharová

Title of diploma thesis: Pain therapy with focus on patients with oncological disease

Pain therapy is a part of the oncological illnesses complex treatment. This therapy doesn't solve the cause of cancer, but significantly increase patient's quality of life during oncological treatment, even in the terminal stage. The main target of this work is to give basic information about pain treatment, focusing on the oncological pain, and elaborate a review of pharmacological groups and individual substances most used in oncological pain treatment.

Basic pillar of the cancer pain treatment is pharmacotherapy, which goes out of the WHO three-grade analgesic ladder. Basic therapy is made of nonopioid analgesics. In case that they aren't enough, we can add weak opioids, which can be replaced by strong opioids afterwards. Analgesics are usually used repeatedly and often in combinations. Dosage interval depends on pharmacological properties, dosage form and patient condition. Well controlled pain phases are usually interrupted by very strong, cruel pain episodes, which are called break-through pain.

Very strong pain, fully or partially resistant to the effect of opioids or with a developed tolerance to effect of the main analgesics should be treated by another wide group of medicaments, called in general as co-analgesics. They are usually used simultaneously with the basic analgesics for pain conditions, which can't be single managed by only analgesics. In the end there is mentioned a brief review of another possibilities of cancer pain therapy.