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DEPARTMENT OF **PAEDIATRIC**  
**ANAESTHESIOLOGY**  
**AND INTENSIVE CARE MEDICINE**

# Acute and chronic pain

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**F** **FAKULTNÍ**  
**NEMOCNICE**  
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## Acute Pain Service



# Definition - Merskey 1967, WHO, IASP

An unpleasant sensory or emotional experience associated with actual or potential tissue damage or described in terms of such damage

*„Pain is, what patient feels, when he says, that he feels pain “*

Margo Mc. Caffery

# Difficult to apply definition

- Small children
- Verbal handicapped adults
- Mentally disabled
- Patients with dementia
- Patients suffering from alexithymia

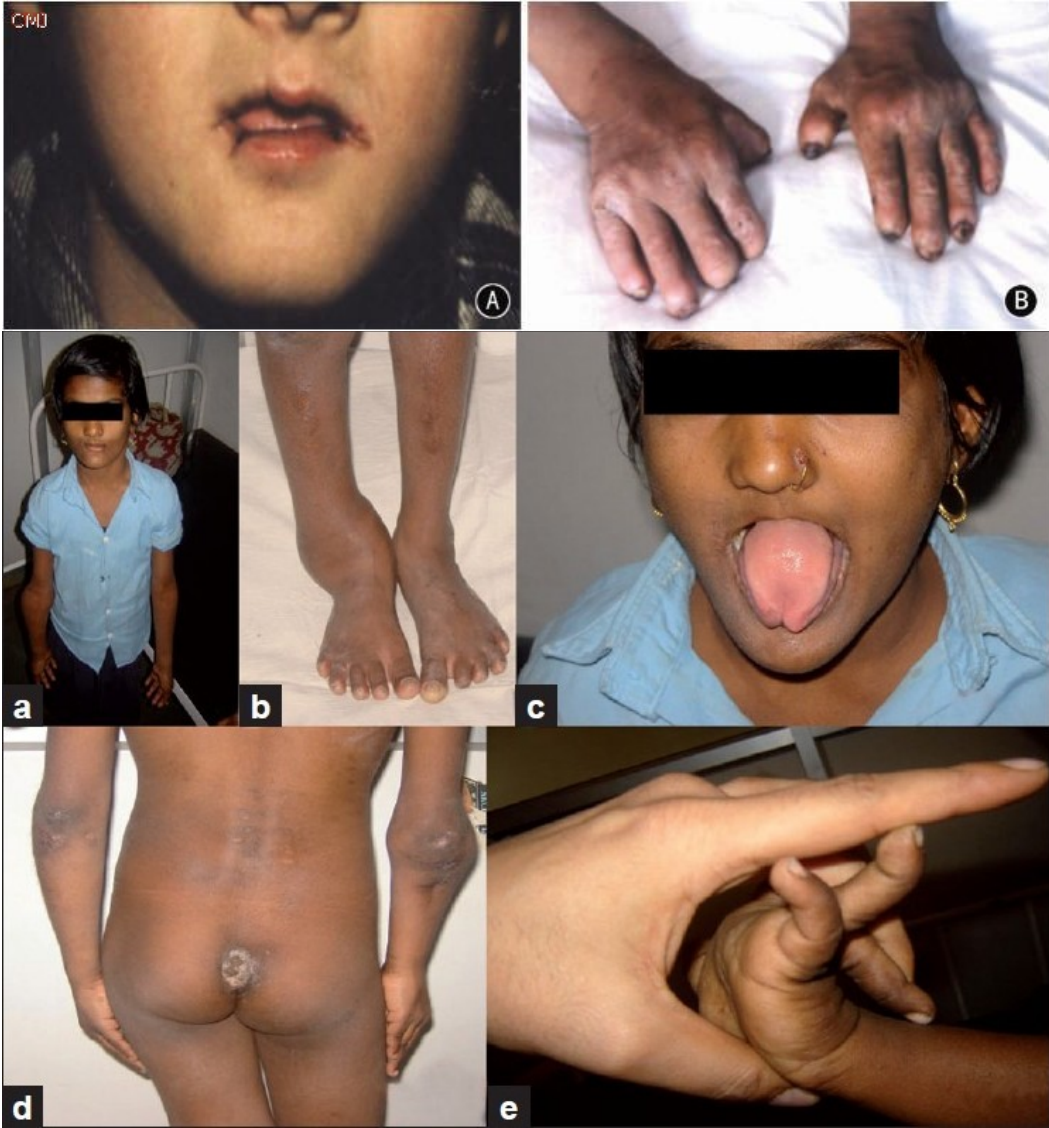
# Pain

= subjective experience

Could be affected:

- Age
- Gender
- Cultural habits
- Previous experience

# Congenital loss of feeling of pain



# Patophysiology of pain

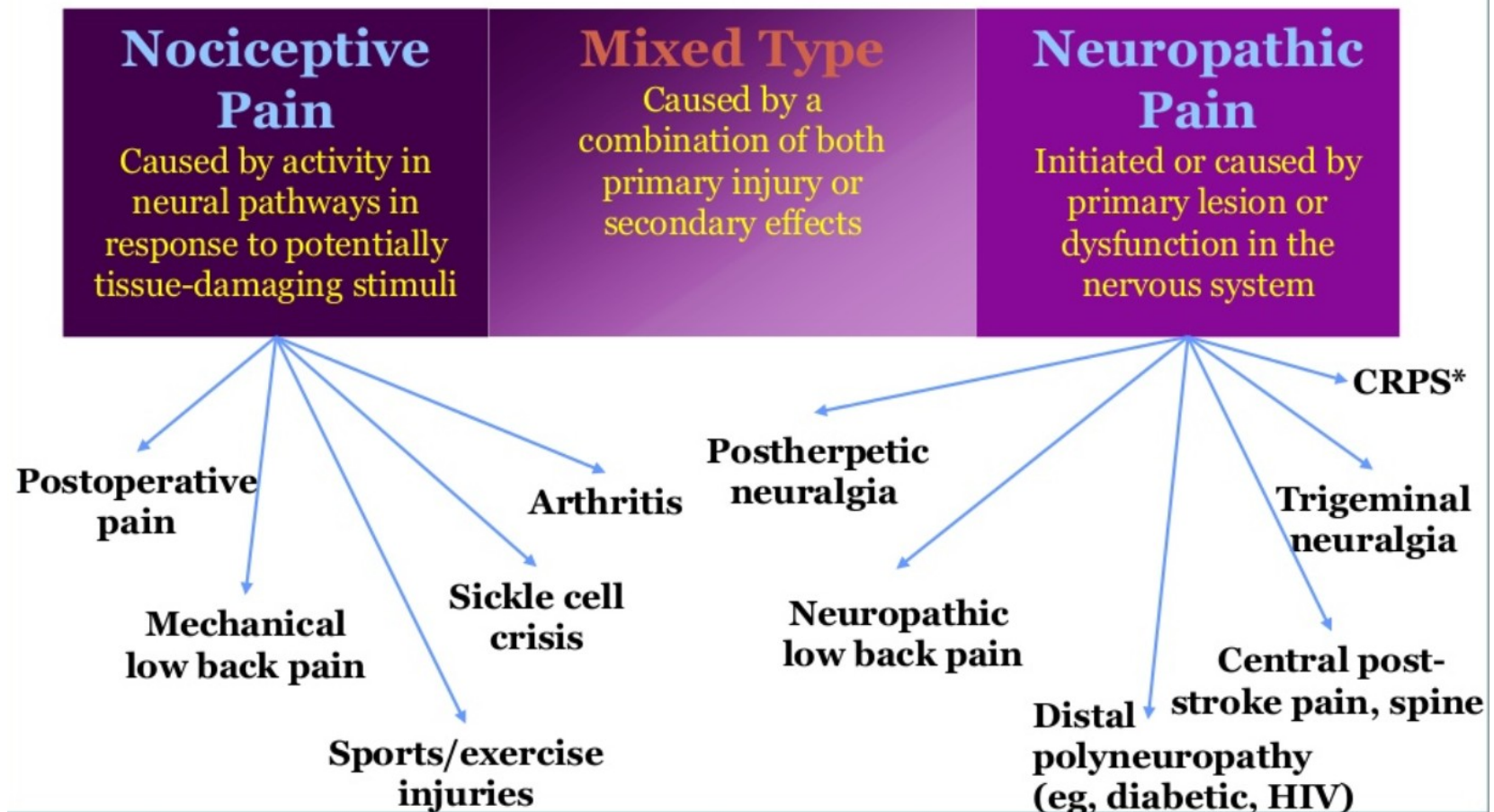
- Nociceptors, polymodal nocisensors
- C fibre nociceptors
- A fibre nociceptors
- Posterior horns of spinal cord
- Tractus spinothalamicus, spino-bulbo thalamicus, spinoreticularis
- Brain pain centers (gyrus precentralis....)
- Supressive mechanisms (GABA, opioids..)

# Classification of pain

1. Acute pain      x      chronic pain
2. Nociceptive pain      x      neuropathic pain
3. Psychogenic pain
4. Malignant pain      x      non-malignant pain
  - Pain caused by cancer (*infiltration of bone, viscera...*)
  - Pain as sequelae of cancer treatment (*post-surgical, post chemotherapy, post radiotherapy...*)



# Classification of pain



# Acute pain

- Useful pain, physiologic pain
- AP is symptom of disease
- Fulfill basic role of pain – protect organism against injury, disease ...
- Short duration – hours, days.. **Max. 3 months**
- Duration of acute pain is adequate to causality of this pain
- Sharp, itching, localized pain,
- Localization is the same as causality
- Stimulation of sympathetic syst.
- Main risk of AP is its chronification

# Chronic pain

- CHP is syndrome, disease
- Long duration – more than 3 months
- Usually connected with depression
- Parasympathetic stimulation
- Constipation
- Social isolation

# Somatic pain

- Cause: stimulation of nociceptors
- Types:
  1. Somatic (muscles, skin, joints)
  2. Visceral (internal organs)
- Character: somatic pain is good localized, sharp
  - Visceral: dull and difficult for localization, sometimes referred pain

# Neuropathic pain

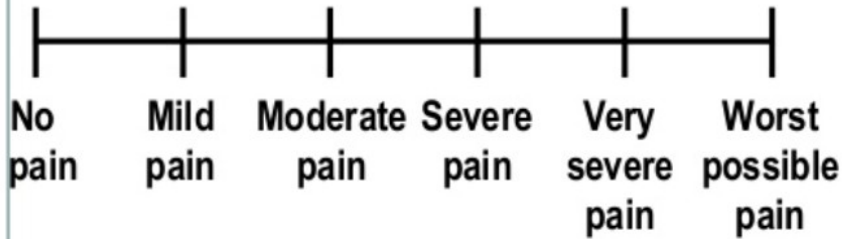
- cause: dysfunction of nerve systems (peripheral, central, vegetative)
- types:
  1. peripheral (peripheral nerves, nerve roots), Trigeminal neuralgia, post herpetic neuralgia
  2. central (brain, spine) central post stroke pain
- Character: stable pain, paroxysmal pain with intensive pain attacks, alodynia) trigeminal neuralgia, postherpetic neuralgia

# Other types of pain

- **Mixed pain:**
  - Pain contained nociceptive and neuropathic type of pain (FBSS)
- **Psychogenic pain**

# Pain measurement

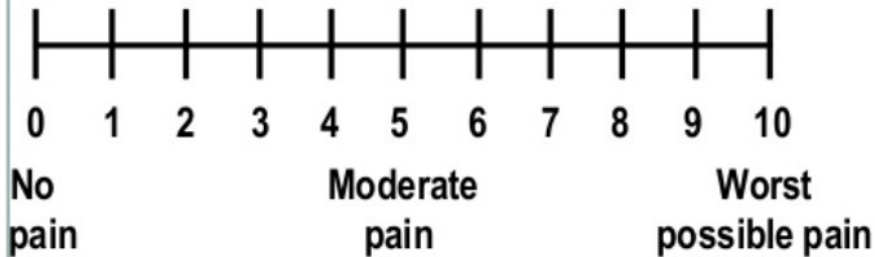
## Verbal Pain Intensity Scale



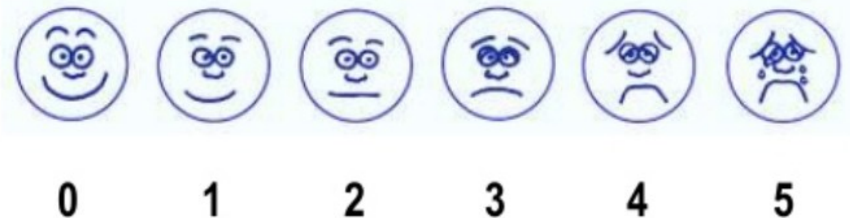
## Visual Analog Scale



## 0-10 Numeric Pain Intensity Scale



## Faces Scale



# Possibilities of pain treatment

- Pharmacotherapy
- Physical treatment and rehabilitation
- Psychotherapy
- Invasive pain treatment methods
- „Alternative“ treatment approaches (homeopathy, acupuncture ....)



# Acute vs. Chronic Pain Management

## Acute Pain

Most often treated with:

- NSAIDS
- Opioids
- Local anesthetics
- Splinting
- Positioning changes
- Ice

## Chronic Pain

Most often treated with:

- Anti-seizure medications
- Anti-depressant medications
- NSAIDS
- Implantable devices
- Psychological therapy
- Acupuncture

When everything else fails  
and benefits outweigh risks

- Opioids

# Acute Pain Service

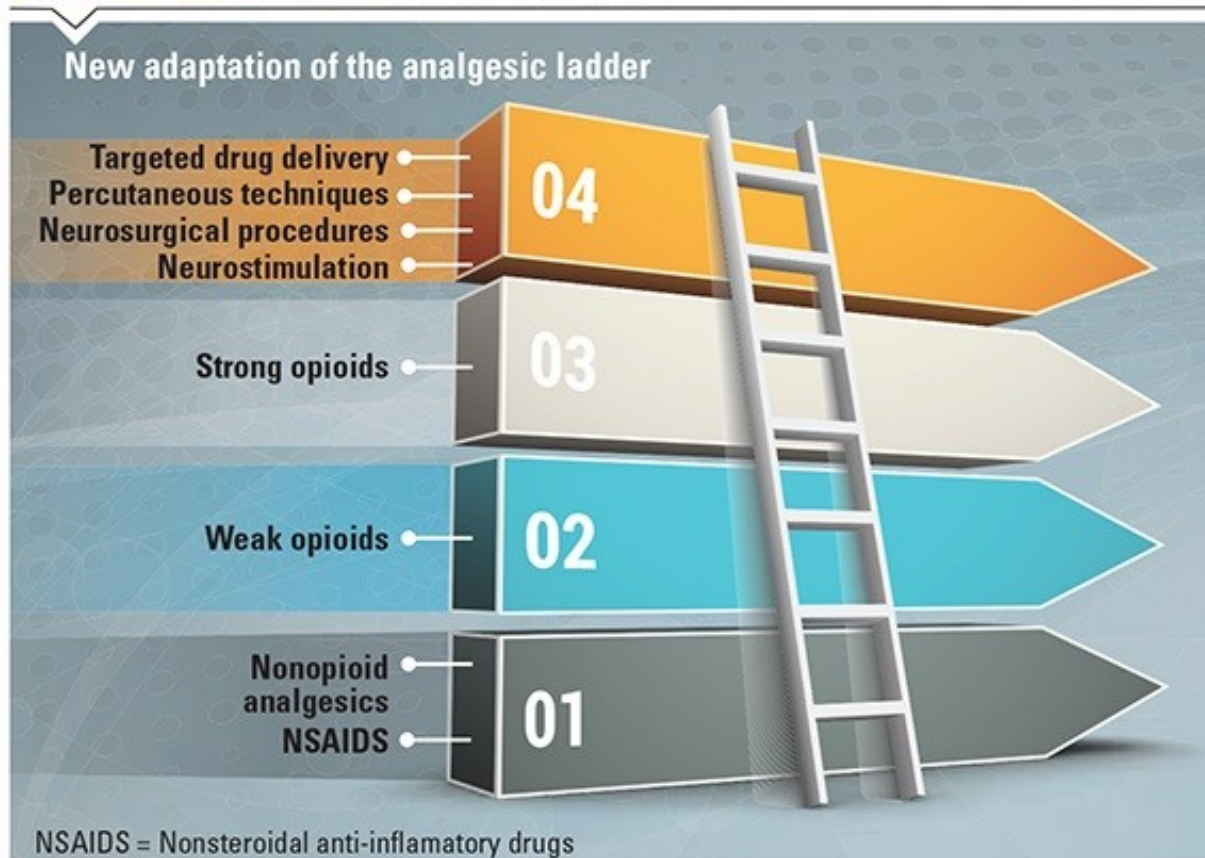
- Provides 7 days per week, 24 hour consultative services every day of the year.
- Staffed by anaesthesiologists, nurse practitioners
- Manages IV PCA (patient controlled analgesia), epidural catheters, nerve block catheters.

# Center for Pain Management

- The Pain Center is located in the Ambulatory Care Pavilion
- Treatments offered
  - Comprehensive evaluations
  - Epidural steroid injections
  - Spinal injections
  - Nerve blocks
  - Psychological evaluation and treatment
  - Opioid risk evaluation

# WHO ladder of pain treatment

FIGURE 1  
**PAIN RELIEF LADDER**



# WHO 3 steps analgesics ladder

- For mild pain, use non-opioid first
- When pain persist or increases, add an opioid
- If pain becomes more severe, increase the opioid potency or dose
- Schedule doses on around-the-clock basis, with additional PRN doses-rescues

# Adjuvant analgesics

- Anticonvulsants
- Antidepressants
- Corticosteroids
- Neuroleptics
- Anxiolytics
- Muscle relaxants
- Anesthetics
- antispasmodics

# Analgetic of the I step

- Analgetic – antipyretic:
  1. Paracetamol (acetaminophen)
  2. NSA (non steroid antiphlogistic):
    - non selective COX inhibitors (ibuprofen, diclofenac, naproxen, indometacin)
    - COX II preference inhibitors (nimesulid, meloxicam)
    - COX II selective inhibitors (celecoxib, parecoxib (Dynastat), valdecoxib)
    - (Arcoxia)

# Analgetic of the II step

## Weak opioids:

- Codeine ( max. 240 mg/d)
- Tramadol (max. 400 - 600 mg/d;  $\mu$  agonist, norepinephrine and serotonin reuptake inhibitor)
- Hydrocodone (DHC) max 240mg/d
- Oxycodone in combination with nonopioid
- Tapentadol ( $\mu$  agonist, norepinephrine reuptake inhibitor)



# Analgetic of the III step

- Morphin SR
- Fentanyl
- Oxycodone
- Morphin IR
- Buprenorphine
- Hydromorfone
- Methadone

# The most frequent mistakes in chronic pain treatment

- Doctors don't use advantageous combinations of different analgesics groups (opioids + NSA, NSA + paracetamol)
- In case of increasing analgesics combinations (step up on the WHO ladder) change non opioid remedy to weak opioid – instead to add weak opioid
- Dosage of drug inappropriate to pharmacokinetics of drug (usual slow release (SR) preparations last for 12 hours)
- Insufficient dosage of opioid, they are untimely changed
- Combinations of different NSA (indomethacin supp + ibuprofen)
- Untimely cancelling treatment due to AE, opioids related AE disappear during 2 weeks (exclude constipation)  
Occurrence of AE is reason for its treatment – no cancelling

# Invasive Pain treatment - indications

- In case of lack of effect of pharmacotherapy
- Pharmacotherapy with severe adverse event
- Supplement of Pharmacotherapy

# Types of blockades

- Reversible x irreversible
- Vegetative x somatic
- single x repeated x continual
- Diagnostic x prognostic x therapeutic

# Division of blockades due to localisation

- Local application of LA (reflexive blockades, trigger points, tender points, painful scars, intraarticular applications (SI? ...))
- Peripheral nerve blockades (axillar, and intercostal nerve block)
- Paravertebral blocks
- Central (spinal) block (epidural, subarachnoid)

# Epidural application of steroids

# Indication

- Acute (days) and subacute (weeks up to 3-6 months) radicular pain (pain irradiating do leg) and caused by intervertebral disc herniation.
- CT exam.
- Patient is not indicated to back surgery





# Recommendation after a application

- 2 weeks of resting regime
- First improvement of pain during 2-3 weeks
- 4 weeks next visit in pain amb.
- From 6 th moth after appl. Started rehabilitation
- Recommended daily exercising (15-20 min) - improve body muscle unbalance

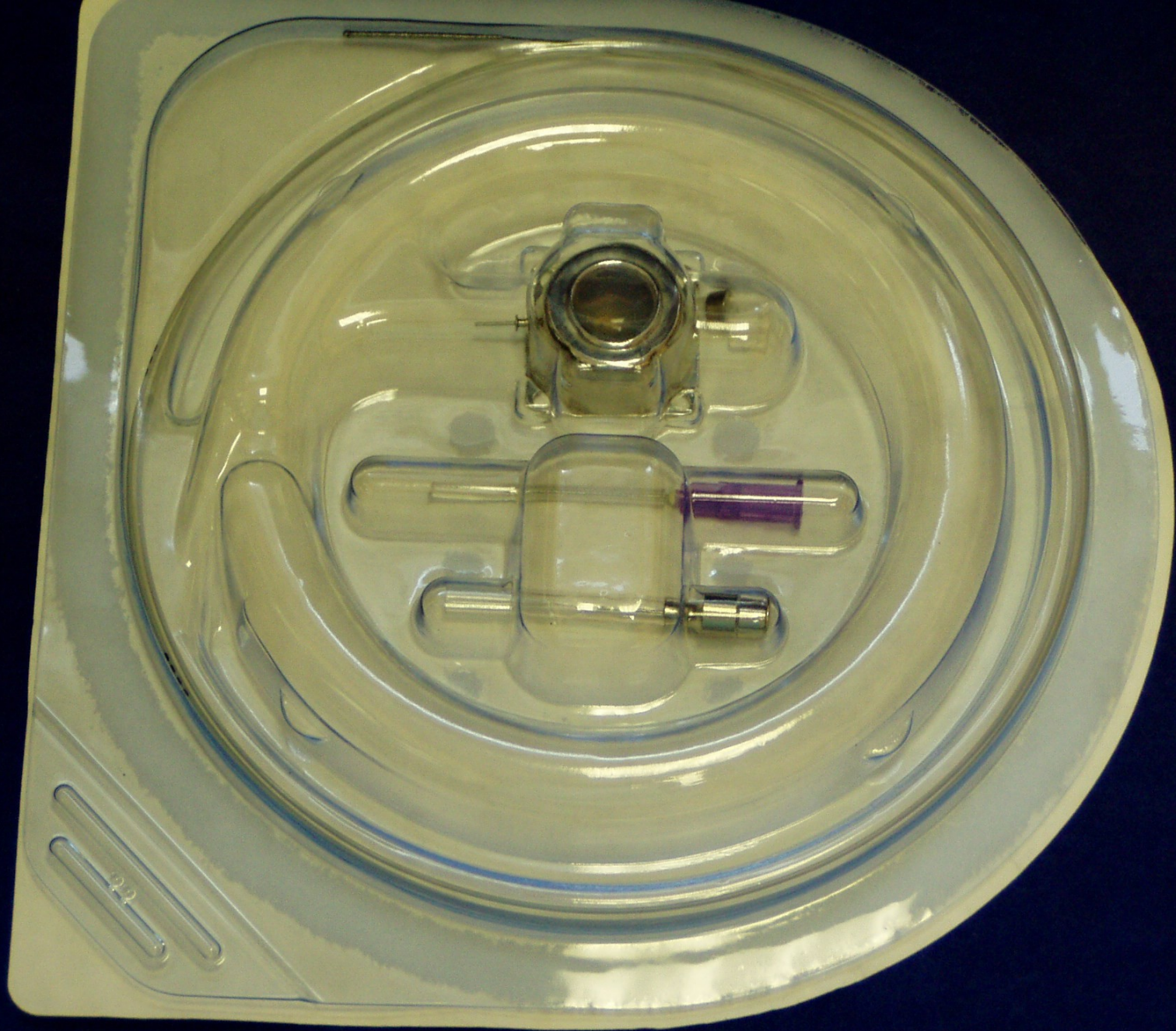
# Subarachnoidal analgesia

- Single shot – before surgery – 24 hours post surgery analgesia
  - LA + morphin spinal 0,2-0,3 mg
- Subarachnoidal catheters
  - Spinocath
- Subarachnoidal ports



# Subarachnoidal ports

- Treatment of chronic pain – months, years (FBSS, Cancer)
- Patient or his family training of applications
- To Be prepare to solve complications of this treatment method (CNS infections, local infections, technical complications, withdrawal syndrome)

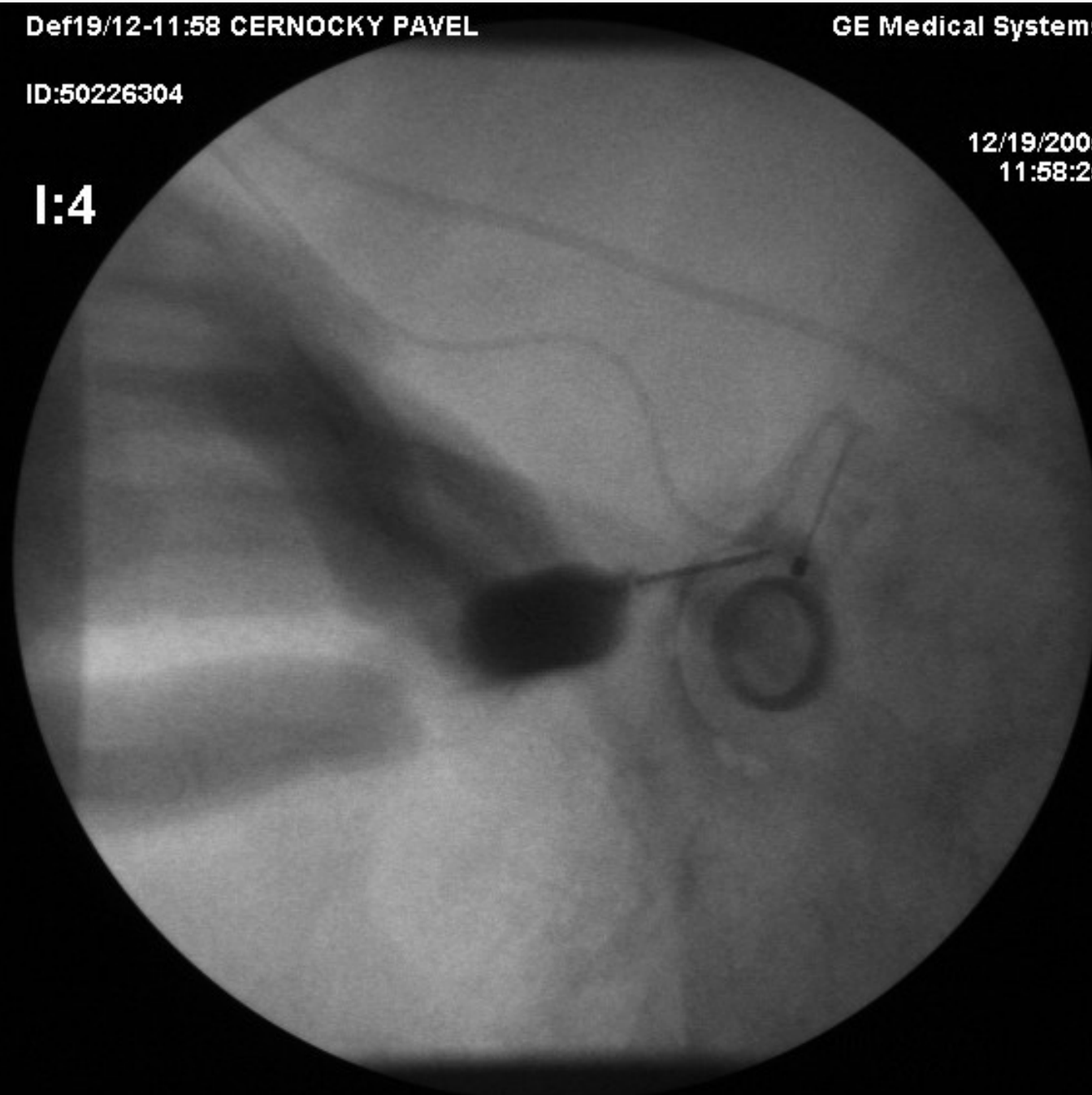


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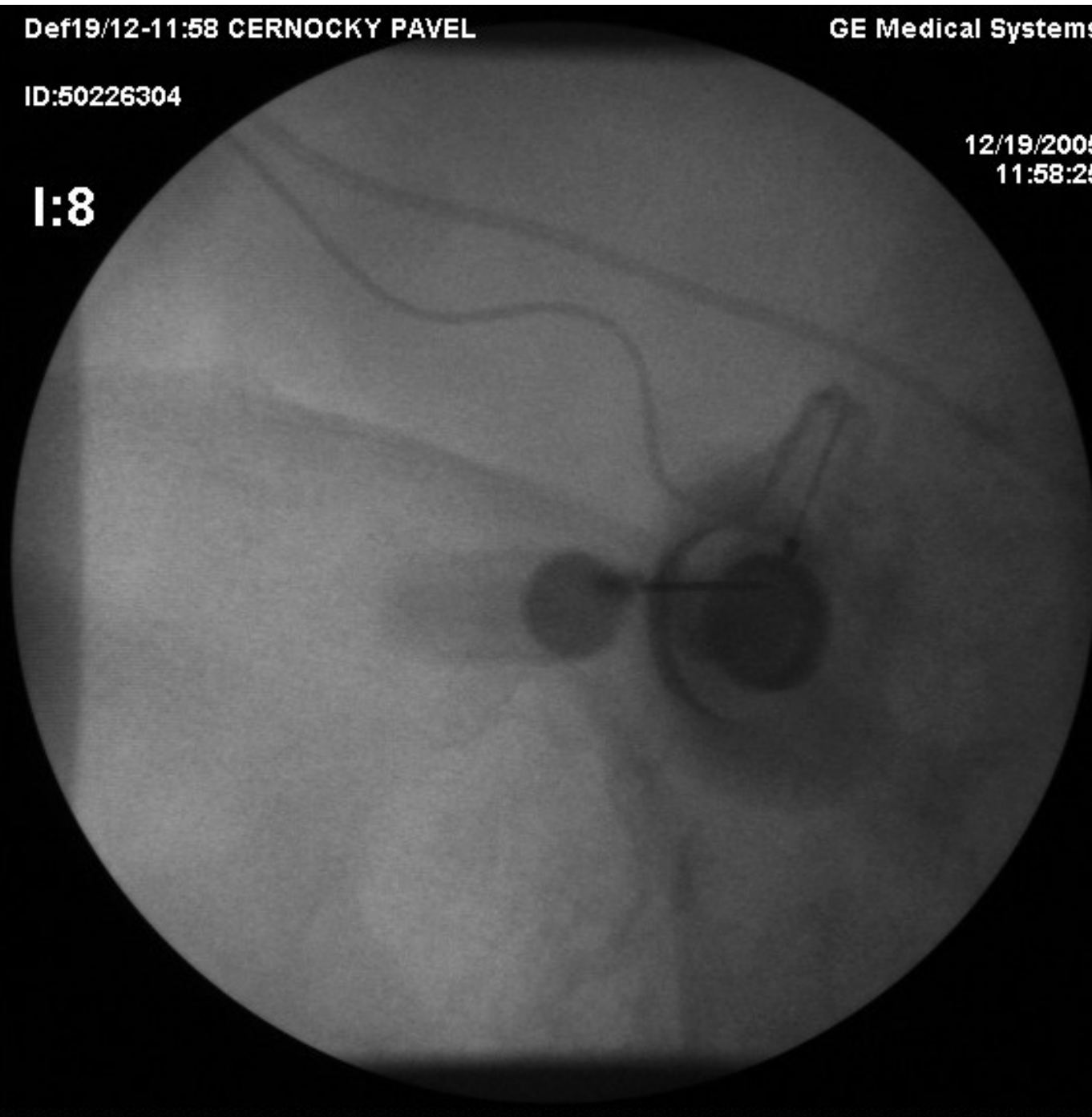
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# Neuromodulation





# Neuromodulations centres in CZ

- FN Homolka
- FN Motol
- ÚVN Praha
- FN Olomouc
- FN Brno
- FN u sv. Anny v Brně



# Necessary pre-implantation examinations

- Neurologic
- Psychologic!!!!
- Psychiatric
- Immunology
- Orthopaedic or neurosurgery
- Summary of health condition from GP
- Algeziology exam
- Positive result of test period

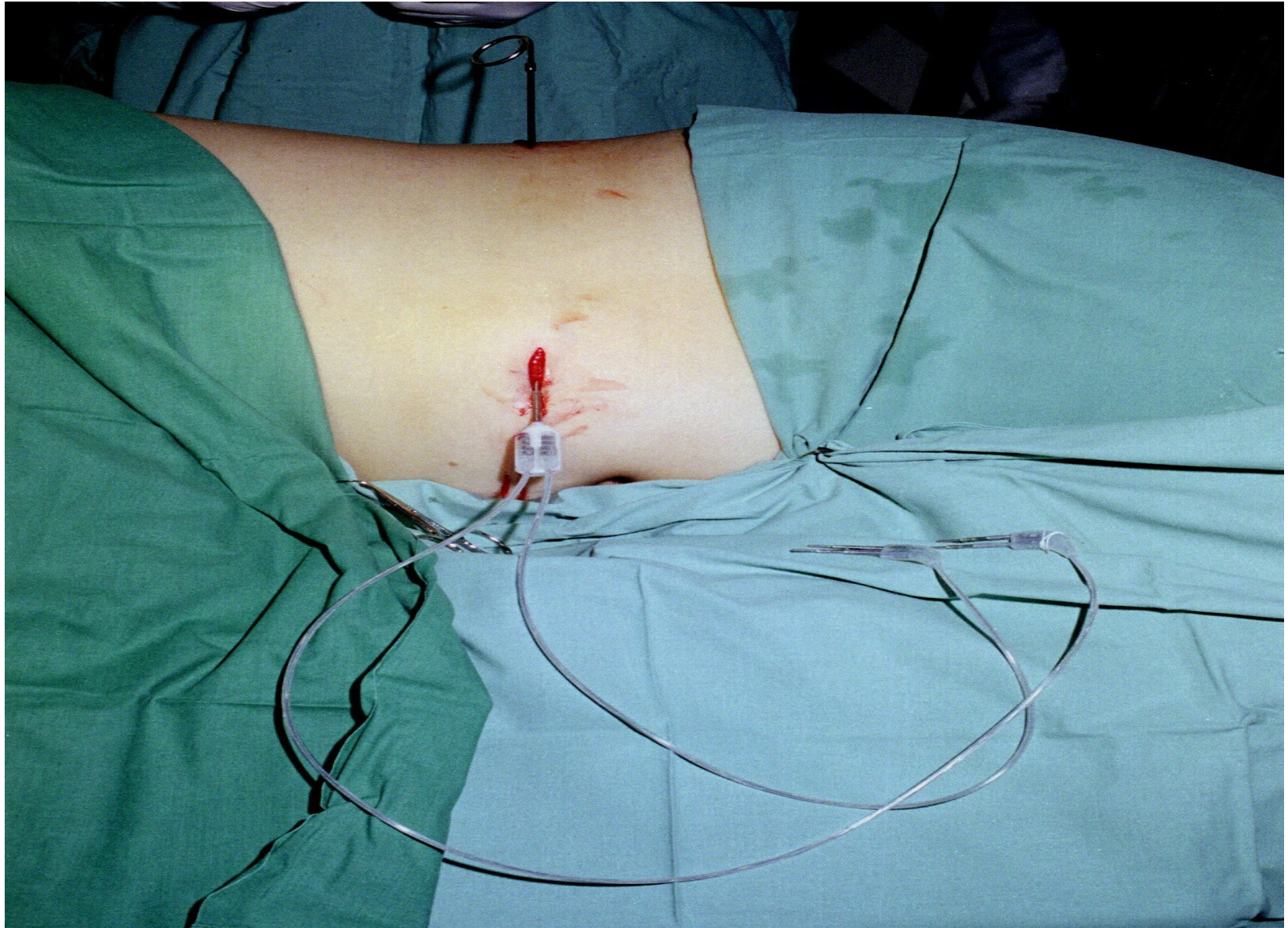
# Indication

SCS – spinal cord stimulation

- Predominant neuropathic lower limb pain

Subarachnoid pumps

- Predominant low back pain



# Subarachnoidal programmable pump – test period

- Insertion of subarachnoid catheter
- Connecting of external programmable pump
- Setting of adequate mode for application
- 1 week in patient, 1 week out patient (better simulation of normal daily life of pat.)



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# Sympathetic blocks



# Sympathetic blocks

## Reversible

- Lokální anaesthetic

## Irreversible

- Etanol 50–80%
- Fenol 6-8%

# Ganglion stellatum – cervical sympathetic syst.

- Upper cervical ganglion (C2-C3)
- Middle cervical ganglion (C4-C6)
- Lower cervical ganglion, ggl. Stellatum (C7 -Th1)



C7, location of the stellate ganglion

# Indication

- CRPS I. a II. Type (after surgery or injury, prolonged healing and oedema, followed with muscle atrophy and articulation freezing)
- Post herpetic neuralgia
- Phantom pain
- Morbus Paget
- Post radiation neuritis
- Raynaud's disease



# Therapy

- Series of 10 blocks, Marcaine 0,25% 10 - 15ml
- Possibility of blockades of other nerves in this region (n. glossopharyngeus, n. recurrent – gulping disorder, huskiness)
- Presence of Horner's trias



# Neurolysis of ggl. coeliacum

- Epigastric pain
  - (painful attacks in case of chronic pancreatitis, cancer of pancreas – very painful type of cancer)
- Blockade under CT control

**Thank you for your attention**