

## PEER-REVIEW REPORT

**Name of journal:** *World Journal of Clinical Cases*

**Manuscript NO:** 69990

**Title:** Impact of adding opioids to paravertebral blocks in breast cancer surgery patients:  
A systematic review and meta-analysis

**Provenance and peer review:** Unsolicited Manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

**Peer-review model:** Single blind

**Reviewer's code:** 05432812

**Position:** Peer Reviewer

**Academic degree:** MD

**Professional title:** Medical Assistant

**Reviewer's Country/Territory:** Peru

**Author's Country/Territory:** China

**Manuscript submission date:** 2021-07-19

**Reviewer chosen by:** AI Technique

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2021-07-22 03:44

**Reviewer performed review:** 2021-07-22 19:14

**Review time:** 15 Hours

Scientific quality	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not publish
Language quality	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection
Conclusion	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept (High priority) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accept (General priority) <input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input type="checkbox"/> Major revision <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
Re-review	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No



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<b>Peer-reviewer statements</b>	Peer-Review: [ <input checked="" type="radio"/> ] Anonymous [ <input type="radio"/> ] Onymous Conflicts-of-Interest: [ <input type="radio"/> ] Yes [ <input checked="" type="radio"/> ] No
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#### **SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS**

This meta-analysis “Does the addition of opioids to paravertebral blocks improve pain control in breast cancer surgery patients?: A systematic review and meta-analysis” describes detailed and well elaborated results regarding the use of adjuvant opioids with paravertebral block (PVB) in patients with breast cancer, suggesting a limited role of this therapy. I consider that this manuscript is publishable in the World Journal of Clinical Cases. Moreover, I made some suggestions in order to support the manuscript:

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**Peer-review model:** Single blind

**Reviewer's code:** 05827123

**Position:** Peer Reviewer

**Academic degree:** MD

**Professional title:** Doctor

**Reviewer's Country/Territory:** Switzerland

**Author's Country/Territory:** China

**Manuscript submission date:** 2021-07-19

**Reviewer chosen by:** AI Technique

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2021-07-22 09:49

**Reviewer performed review:** 2021-08-03 07:31

**Review time:** 11 Days and 21 Hours

<b>Scientific quality</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not publish
<b>Language quality</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection
<b>Conclusion</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept (High priority) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accept (General priority) <input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input type="checkbox"/> Major revision <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<b>Re-review</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

<b>Peer-reviewer statements</b>	Peer-Review: [ <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ] Anonymous [ <input type="checkbox"/> ] Onymous Conflicts-of-Interest: [ <input type="checkbox"/> ] Yes [ <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ] No
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## SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

The title is self explanatory and clear. This review aims to find out if the addition of opioids to a paravertebral block would have an impact on total analgesic consumption over 24h after breast surgery. The subject is important as breast surgery is the treatment for breast cancer, which is the most common cancer amongst women and has a high incidence of postoperative chronic pain. This review found that the addition of opioids to a paravertebral block has a very limited impact on total analgesic consumption after breast surgery. The manuscript is well written. The Methods section is clear and the Prisma guidelines well followed. The limitations and strength of the manuscript are well described in the discussion. The manuscript is easy to read and interesting. However, I have a few comments on the Methods section: - I regret there is no registered protocol. It would have added credibility and quality to the review. - The control group is not clearly described. The author described the control group as receiving a "placebo". It should be clearly described that the control group received a paravertebral block with the addition of a placebo. I would also recommend adding a column in Table 1 with the description of the intervention received by the control group in each included study. - It is not clear whether the analgesic consumption is in morphine equivalents. It would be more clear to add this information. Also, the method used to convert the different postoperative analgesics used, to morphine equivalents is not described in the methods section. - A reference to the Flow Chart in the results section is missing.