

THE VALUE OF BUPIVACAINE AND PRE-SURGICAL TREATMENT
WITH NSAID AND STEROIDS IN THE MANAGEMENT
OF POST-OPERATIVE COMPLICATIONS



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The dental profession has always had a image problem with the public and is always equated with pain, as a consequence of which there are lots of humour, jokes, cartoons about dental pain.

It is an established fact that the fear of pain keeps people away from dental professionals while it is also true that only the unbearable pain brings them to a dental surgeon.

Over the past few years there has been a significant increase in our understanding of pain mechanisms and also the pharmacology of local anaesthetic agents and analgesics.

This has enabled a rational thinking of pain management and resulted in the development of several new strategies including a few to suit the individual patient.

Ever since the introduction of cocaine as a local anaesthetic agent in dentistry there has been constant development of newer drugs with more potency and less or no side effects. Though several of such drugs are available lidocaine is the only popular and commonly used local anaesthetic in this country.

Similarly still the conventional method of prescribing analgesic agent post operatively is the common practice among the dental profession.

Keeping the above facts in mind and the understanding of the pain mechanisms, pharmacology of the local anaesthetic agents and analgesics a study has been designed to compare the efficacy of 2% lidocaine with Adrenaline versus 0.5% Bupivacaine along with pre-emptive analgesics and steroids in assessment of post-operative pain, swelling and trismus. This study was conducted including sixty patients who underwent surgical removal of lower impacted third molar in the Department Of Oral And Maxillofacial Surgery, College Of Dental Sciences And Hospital, DHARWAD.