Current Opioid Prescribing Patterns After Microdirect Laryngoscopy (MDL)

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Aims/Goals: Microdirect laryngoscopy (MDL) is a common otolaryngological procedure for which postoperative pain management is likely quite variable. Our aim is to survey surgeons about their prescription patterns for prescribing opioid-containing medications post-operatively.

Methods: A cross-sectional survey of otolaryngologists at a national laryngology meeting.

Results and Interpretation: Fifty percent of respondents (N = 57) give opioids to MDLs post-op due to patient preference. Procedure (tissue removal/laser) weighed more heavily than an MDLs diagnosis (cancer/non-cancer) age or in-patient status. Gender played no role in this decision. History of opioid use only influenced their decision close to 40% of the time.

Conclusions: Ninety-five percent of surgeons surveyed prescribe opioid-containing medications post-operatively.