

1           **Continuous Lidocaine Infusions to Manage Opioid-Refractory Pain in a Series of**  
2           **Cancer Patients in a Pediatric Hospital**

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70 Abbreviation Key

CLI	Continuous lidocaine infusion
PICU	Pediatric intensive care unit

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## Abstract

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**Background.** Research on the safety and efficacy of continuous lidocaine infusions (CLIs) for treatment of pain in the pediatric setting is limited. This manuscript describes a series of pediatric oncology patients who received lidocaine infusions for refractory, longstanding, cancer-related pain.

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**Procedure.** This is a retrospective review of patients who underwent lidocaine infusions to manage severe, opioid-refractory, cancer-related pain. Four patients ranging in age from 8-18 years were admitted to a pediatric hospital for their medical conditions and/or pain management. Structured chart review established demographic and diagnosis information, infusion rates, side effects, and efficacy of infusions in providing pain relief. Lidocaine bolus doses, infusion rates, serum concentrations, and subjective pain scores were analyzed.

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**Results.** Median pain scores prior to lidocaine infusions were 8/10, falling to 2/10 at the infusion termination ( $p < 0.003$ ), and rising to 3/10 in the first 24 hours after lidocaine ( $p < 0.029$  compared to pre-infusion pain). The infusions were generally well-tolerated, with few side effects noted. In most cases, the improvement in pain scores persisted beyond termination of the infusion.

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**Conclusions.** Continuous lidocaine infusions were a helpful adjuvant in the four cases presented and may be an effective therapy for a more diverse array of refractory cancer pain. The majority of patients experienced pain relief well beyond the metabolic elimination

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102 of the lidocaine, corroborating a modulation effect on pain wind-up. Additional research  
103 regarding infusion rates, serum concentrations, side effects, and outpatient follow-up in a  
104 larger group of patients will provide additional insight into the role and safety of this therapy  
105 in children.

## 106 **Introduction**

107 The World Health Organization (WHO) ladder describes an approach to medical  
108 therapies for pain management starting with non-opioid therapies for mild pain, and  
109 progressing to opioid medications for moderate to severe pain. However, in cases of severe or  
110 refractory pain where the use of first-line and opioid therapies is inadequate, ineffective, or  
111 creates untoward side effects, the number of viable alternatives for pain management is  
112 limited. Lidocaine is an amide local anesthetic as well as a Class 1B antiarrhythmic agent. It  
113 is known to block nerve conduction via sodium channels on sensory neurons and inhibit G  
114 protein-coupled receptors and NMDA receptors, giving it analgesic, anti-hyperalgesic and  
115 anti-inflammatory actions. By inhibiting individual sodium channels, the inward sodium  
116 current is reduced, thus impeding transmission of pain impulses to the central nervous  
117 system. With rising lidocaine concentrations, neural transmission is increasingly diminished,  
118 eventually inhibiting sensory and motor function to the point of surgical analgesia and  
119 clinical motor blockade. Local injections, epidural administration, and nerve blocks achieve  
120 high regional concentrations while diminishing risks of systemic toxicity and CNS  
121 depression. However, systemic administration can also reduce neural transmission in  
122 circumstances where regional administration is not practical.[6] In many circumstances, it  
123 can be systemically administered at doses that effectively reduce pain and nociceptive  
124 sensation without impacting other sensory or motor function. Intravenous lidocaine exhibits

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125 a steep dose-response curve such that minimal increases in dose result in large increases in  
126 pain relief.[3]

127 In several reports in the adult literature, lidocaine has proven to be effective in chronic  
128 pain management for opioid-refractory pain.[2,10,15,16] Lidocaine infusions have also been  
129 useful in ameliorating daily and migraine headaches in adult patients.[5] And in adult  
130 patients afflicted with various oncologic diagnoses, Sharma *et al* demonstrated that  
131 intravenous lidocaine was effective in reducing pain scores.[16] Interestingly, Schwartzman  
132 *et al* reported that a cohort of complex regional pain syndrome patients enjoyed improved  
133 pain control for three months following a five day infusion of lidocaine. This implies that  
134 lidocaine may partially “reset” dysregulated pain pathways.

135 Recently, the use of lidocaine therapy for pain management in the pediatric  
136 population has been documented. Lidocaine infusions helped control refractory pain in case  
137 reports of pediatric patients with cancer and primary erythromelalgia.[7,13] Additionally,  
138 lidocaine infusions were effective in managing pain in a series of adolescent and young adult  
139 patients suffering from headaches and neuropathic pain states.[12]

140 Since information on lidocaine infusions for refractory pain in pediatrics is  
141 underrepresented in the current literature, we aim to describe the effectiveness of CLIs used  
142 in several patients with cancer pain. Continuous lidocaine infusions in this patient population  
143 are an important therapeutic option to consider for pediatric patients suffering from cancer-  
144 related pain who have either exhausted all other classes of pain medication, or whose pain  
145 therapy is limited by medication side effects.

## 146 **Methods**

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147 After Institutional Review Board approval was obtained, the electronic medical  
148 records of patients who had received lidocaine infusions to manage severe, refractory pain  
149 were reviewed. A total of four pediatric patients with diverse oncologic diagnoses resulting  
150 in longstanding refractory pain were identified. Pain was considered refractory when dose  
151 escalations of opiates did not result in clinical improvement in pain and/or when other  
152 adjuvant therapies (eg, ketamine, gabapentin) failed to achieve pain scores tolerable to  
153 patients. Eligibility to receive lidocaine was determined by primary managing clinicians. The  
154 four patients received lidocaine infusions between January 2010 and December 2013. During  
155 this time period, there were a total of fourteen infusions.

156 Although care was not protocolized, all patients were admitted to the Pediatric  
157 Intensive Care Unit (PICU) to initiate the infusions, where cardio-respiratory monitoring and  
158 frequent neurological assessments were employed during initial therapy. The institutional  
159 standard for bolusing lidocaine non-emergently is over 2-3 minutes. If lidocaine infusion  
160 doses were stable and patients were medically stable after initiation in the PICU, infusions  
161 could be continued on the general care units. Lidocaine infusions were delivered via an  
162 infusion pump with lidocaine infusion concentrations of 8 mg/mL. Infusions were initiated  
163 and titrated at the discretion of the pediatric critical care team in consultation with the  
164 palliative care and acute pain service teams.

165 Demographic data including age, sex, and weight were collected by the study  
166 members through structured chart abstraction. Additional data collection included the  
167 following: diagnosis, length of therapy, continuous infusion rates, loading doses used, serum  
168 lidocaine concentrations, subjective pain scores, and side effects potentially related to the

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169 lidocaine infusion. Patient-reported pain scores were measured on a 0-10 numeric scale (0  
170 for no pain and 10 for worst pain).

171 Conventional descriptive and comparative biostatistical analyses were made,  
172 including correlation coefficients and Wilcoxon Rank Sum tests using cloud-based statistical  
173 software (StatCrunch by Integrated Analytics LLC). Unadjusted p values are provided in the  
174 comparisons of pain scores before, during, and after CLIs (Figure 3), and a conservative  
175 Bonferroni correction for these 6 comparisons would establish a significant p value of  
176  $<0.008$ .

## 177 **Results**

178 The four patients, ages 8, 16, 17, and 18 years, received a total of fourteen infusions  
179 among them. There were two females and two males. All patients suffered from advanced  
180 solid tumors (teratoma, osteosarcoma, rhabdomyosarcoma, and neurofibromatosis with  
181 malignant transformation into a malignant peripheral nerve sheath tumor). These patients  
182 had been previously treated with a multimodal approach to their longstanding pain of weeks  
183 to months – with days to weeks of acutely escalating pain severity. They had been prescribed  
184 combinations of opioid and non-opioid medications to manage pain without satisfactory relief  
185 prior to initiation of lidocaine therapy (Table I), and two of four patients had pain features  
186 with stigmata of neuropathic pain that had partly responded to neuropathic pain agents  
187 (gabapentin, pregabalin, duloxetine). All pain medications that patients had been taking prior  
188 to lidocaine were continued during CLIs. However, in three of four patients the total opiate  
189 dose was reduced by at least 50% during their first CLI, after which re-escalation of these  
190 same opiates occurred to doses modestly lower than before CLI therapy.

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191 Details of lidocaine loading doses, infusion rates, duration of infusions, and side  
192 effects noted are in Table I. During the four years reviewed, the patients each underwent 2-8  
193 infusions with a median duration of infusion of 2.15 days (range 5 hours – 17 days). A  
194 lidocaine loading dose of 1 mg/kg was administered in 10 of 14 (71.4%) of the infusions. For  
195 non-emergent medication boluses prior to infusions, our institution's standard loading  
196 procedure is over 2-3 minutes on an infusion pump. The continuous infusion doses ranged  
197 from 15-50 mcg/kg/min. The median initial and maximum infusion rates were 30 and 36  
198 mcg/kg/min, respectively. The infusions were titrated to either maximal pain relief or  
199 emergence of intolerable side effects.

200 Three of our patients experienced adverse events that could have resulted from the  
201 lidocaine infusions. These side effects included changes in vision, visual hallucinations, and  
202 paresthesias. These symptoms occurred in 35% (5 of 14 infusions); in all cases, the  
203 symptoms resolved either spontaneously or with decreasing the infusion rate. No patients  
204 experienced seizures or cardiac complications during their inpatient lidocaine infusions.

205 Serum concentrations were measured in some of the patients (3 of 4) during some of  
206 the lidocaine infusions (10 of 14) at the discretion of the primary service, palliative care, and  
207 acute pain service teams. The serum lidocaine levels ranged from 1.7 to >40.1 mcg/mL, the  
208 upper limit of quantification by the assay. Lidocaine level data were evaluated for outliers  
209 for the purpose of this analysis, and 5 of 60 levels were excluded for being greater than 28  
210 mcg/mL (4 of them beyond measurable limits). Exclusions were done with thorough review  
211 to ensure: (1) the patients' providers believed these to be contaminants; (2) there was a lack  
212 of correlation with changes in clinical status or management; and (3) timely repeat values  
213 were obtained (available in 3 of 5 cases).

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214 Lidocaine serum concentrations corresponding with infusion rates for patients B, C &  
215 D are displayed in the left panel of Figure 1. There was a statistically insignificant weak  
216 correlation between increasing infusion rates of lidocaine and serum levels in all patients.  
217 The slope of the relationship between infusion rate and serum lidocaine levels varied among  
218 patients, with some having higher serum levels at the same infusion rate (data not shown).  
219 In addition, patients' pain scores were significantly, inversely correlated with their serum  
220 lidocaine concentrations, as shown in the right panel of Figure 1, indicating that improved  
221 subjective pain scores were associated with increasing serum lidocaine concentrations.

222 Figure 2 summarizes the four patients' pain scores at key points during and after their  
223 infusions. Compared to pain scores at initiation, scores were significantly reduced 4 hours  
224 into the infusion and further significantly reduced by the end of the infusion. In the 24 hours  
225 after cessation of the lidocaine infusion, pain scores rebounded slightly, but non-significantly,  
226 and remained significantly lower than pain scores at initiation (Figure 2). Absolute pain  
227 score reduction was greater for severe versus moderate pain states prior to lidocaine therapy,  
228 but similar in proportional reduction. Episodes with pain scores of 8-10 at initiation of  
229 therapy (n=9 infusions) showed reductions in average pain score from 8.6 to 1.8, a change of  
230 -6.8 (-79%), whereas starting pain scores of 2-7 (n=5 infusions) showed average pain score  
231 reduction from 4.4 to 0.6, a change of -3.8 (-86%). All patients received more than one CLI,  
232 with repeat infusions predicated on the clinical impression that they responded favorably to a  
233 prior CLI (one in home hospice, not included in this analysis).

234 The left panel of Figure 3 graphically depicts the four patients' pain scores at the  
235 initiation of lidocaine infusion, four hours after initiation, and the termination of the infusion  
236 for all fourteen infusions. The difference in pain scores between the initial pain score and  
237 four hours into the infusion, four hours into the infusion and termination of infusion, and

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238 initiation and termination pain scores are all statistically significant. The right panel of  
239 Figure 3 depicts time point including the 24 hours after termination of the infusion, in the  
240 patients in whom these data were available. The reported pain scores were largely unchanged  
241 in the 24 hours after termination of the infusion. Documentation of pain scores after 24 hours  
242 was sparse; however in one series from each of the four patients, reduced pain scores were  
243 identified between 2 days and 4 months off lidocaine (Table II).

## 244 Discussion

245 Opioids are usually the first-line pharmacologic agents for moderate to severe pain,  
246 but in some instances neuropathic and oncologic pain can be opioid-refractory and  
247 challenging to manage. Our series describes four patients suffering from malignant pain as  
248 result of invasive solid tumors in various anatomic locations who underwent a total of  
249 fourteen lidocaine infusions. This therapy was well-tolerated and markedly reduced pain  
250 scores for at least 24 hours after cessation, and occasionally much longer periods.

251 Data have shown that the analgesic response to intravenous lidocaine is characterized  
252 by a precipitous "break in pain" over a narrow dosage and concentration range for a given  
253 patient.[3] Prior studies of intravenous lidocaine have also found that symptoms of toxicity  
254 develop in a reasonably sequential and predictable manner based on serum lidocaine  
255 levels(Table III).[7] The early expected toxicities (lightheadedness, sensorium disturbances)  
256 for a relatively short/finite infusion time were preferable to inadequately controlled pain, so  
257 the approach employed was titration of lidocaine infusions either to a pain score of zero or  
258 emergence of early, tolerable toxicities. As these patients were managed in an ICU where  
259 benzodiazepine therapy was readily available, infusions were titrated to achieve adequate  
260 pain control, even in the presence of fairly high serum levels and infusion rates in some cases.

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261 This was directed by patient priorities, in an effort to balance pain management and the side  
262 effect profile of intravenous lidocaine therapy, which is known to cause seizures at higher  
263 serum levels (Table III). This approach may not be advisable in patients who either would  
264 not prioritize pain management over the emergence of seizures or even more serious side  
265 effects, or in patients receiving therapy on the ward or at home, where treatment of seizures  
266 may be difficult. In our series of fourteen infusions, there were no seizures noted during  
267 lidocaine therapy.

268 Due to a paucity of information on the safety of this therapy in the pediatric setting,  
269 the initial CLI for each patient was started in the PICU where the intensive care, palliative  
270 care and acute pain service teams collaborated. These infusions were initiated for high pain  
271 scores reported by patients, which were not responsive to escalating opioids or other  
272 treatments, including adjuvant non-opioid agents such as ketamine, gabapentin, and steroids.  
273 In all cases, the patients' pain scores were lower during and immediately after the lidocaine  
274 infusion. In some cases, the effect was more dramatic and prolonged than in others, but as  
275 became evident with retrospective chart review, the patients' pain scores were not assessed at  
276 scheduled intervals, complicating structured analyses and long term follow-up. Interestingly,  
277 subjective pain scores were more dramatically decreased when the patients reported higher  
278 scores prior to therapy. This is consistent with previously published studies which  
279 demonstrated that the magnitude of the response to therapy correlated with the degree of pain  
280 intensity at the start of therapy.[2,12]

281 A significant safety concern with systemic lidocaine administration is risk of seizures,  
282 relating to both a direct effect and that of the predominant hepatic metabolite  
283 monoethylglycinexylidide (MEGX), which can accumulate in the setting of renal

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284 dysfunction. There is also concern regarding the pharmacokinetics of amino-amides (e.g.,  
285 lidocaine and bupivacaine) in neonates and infants, and members of these age groups were  
286 not represented in our series. Due to reduced metabolic clearance and protein binding,  
287 neonates and infants can develop drug and metabolite accumulation and resultant toxicity  
288 during administration of these medications.[8] However, among the 8-18 year old patients  
289 we describe, the lidocaine infusion therapy was well tolerated. Side effects observed were  
290 primarily paresthesias, blurry vision and visual hallucinations, but in all cases were preferable  
291 to the patients than the uncontrolled pain. Two patients had episodes of paresthesias during  
292 therapy. Patient C had paresthesias in the right lower extremity during the first lidocaine  
293 infusion, which may have been due to the primary disease process, as the patient was  
294 experiencing similar symptoms on admission prior to therapy. During this patient's eighth  
295 infusion, tingling was reported when the lidocaine infusion was increased from 32 to 35  
296 mcg/kg/min. This symptom resolved when the infusion was reduced to 32 mcg/kg/min and  
297 maintained at this rate. Patient B reported blurry vision and visual hallucinations during the  
298 third infusion, however this patient was receiving adjuvant analgesic ketamine and high dose  
299 dexamethasone at the time, which may have been contributory, as the infusion rate was not  
300 changed, and the symptom spontaneously resolved.

301 Serum lidocaine concentrations were not reliably correlated with infusion rates, and  
302 the degree of serum lidocaine concentration increase as a result of infusion rate varied among  
303 patients. For example, patient B had concentrations of 6-7 mcg/mL when receiving an  
304 infusion of 35 mcg/kg/min, whereas patient C had concentrations of 2.5-3.5 mcg/mL during  
305 an infusion of 33 mcg/kg/min. It is likely that organ function, drug interactions, and other  
306 comorbidities affect the serum concentrations in individual patients. Patient pain scores  
307 improved as serum lidocaine concentrations increased, although this inverse correlation was

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308 weak. Because of both inter-individual variability in metabolism and tolerance, titrating  
309 infusion to effect and monitoring serum lidocaine levels to define a particular patient's  
310 therapeutic window may be more useful than predefined infusion ranges and toxicity  
311 thresholds. In contrast to intravenous lidocaine's use as an antiarrhythmic, the individualized  
312 approach used in these children with uncontrolled pain and, ultimately, terminal cancers is  
313 consistent with palliative care models – carefully balancing risks and benefits. It should be  
314 emphasized that pain management was of utmost priority for these specific patients, and  
315 therefore infusions were maintained and adjusted with this as the primary goal. A more  
316 conservative approach may be necessary for patients who are not at end of life, or in whom  
317 the emergence of side effects is unsettling or undesirable.

318 As reported in previous literature, several of the study patients' analgesic benefit  
319 persisted days to months beyond the termination of the lidocaine infusion.[1,12] This is an  
320 interesting phenomenon, given that the half-life of lidocaine is 90-120 minutes. The direct  
321 pharmacologic action of lidocaine would have been terminated soon after discontinuing the  
322 infusions, suggesting that lidocaine exhibits unconventional pharmacodynamics on  
323 longstanding or wound-up pain. Further research may clarify the mechanism of this  
324 prolonged clinical benefit observed in some patients. It may relate to interrupting  
325 sensitization or intensified pain from positive feedback loops, or alternately by mitigating  
326 opiate induced hyperalgesia. Lidocaine's impact on complement and proinflammatory  
327 cytokines may also contribute to pain modulation.[9] Ultimately, some of the effect may not  
328 be specific to lidocaine per se, but rather relate to an effective interruption of the physiology  
329 leading to wound up pain states that could be potentially achieved with other agents.

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330 Of note, one of our patients who did not tolerate weaning of the lidocaine infusion  
331 (i.e. did not experience the sustained, post-infusion relief) was successfully transitioned to an  
332 oral sodium channel blocker, mexiletine, making it feasible to discharge him from the  
333 hospital without an ongoing intravenous therapy. Successful transition from lidocaine  
334 infusion to oral mexilitine has previously been reported in the adult literature.[4] Thus, this  
335 may present a viable outpatient option for patients in whom intravenous lidocaine is effective  
336 in providing opiate-refractory analgesia but whose benefits appear to be from the direct  
337 mechanism of the sodium channel blockade.

338 Limitations of this case series analysis include its retrospective design, small sample  
339 size and absence of pediatric patients less than 8 years of age. It is inadequately powered to  
340 reliably detect adverse complications, but is consistent with the safety profile of lidocaine  
341 reported in other studies. Strengths of this analysis include applicability across a wide range  
342 of cancer diagnoses, reproducibility within and among patients, and objective  
343 pharmacokinetic data corroborating the subjective patient-reported outcome measure of pain.

344 Overall, this review indicates that lidocaine infusion therapy was a well-tolerated and  
345 useful adjuvant for these pediatric patients with cancer pain refractory to conventional and  
346 even other non-conventional, second and third tier therapies like steroids, gabapentin,  
347 ketamine, and cannabinoids. This therapy was associated with some side effects that were  
348 tolerable, and infusions were able to be transitioned to non-ICU settings. Given the relative  
349 inexperience with continuous intravenous lidocaine therapy for this indication in pediatrics,  
350 and because of the complex multidisciplinary, multiprofessional care coordination required,  
351 our institution subsequently developed a clinical practice guideline (Supplemental Appendix).  
352 This guideline is intended to reduce unnecessary practice variation among providers within

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353 our institution and was based on the general approaches successfully used in these patients  
354 and described in the published literature. Further clinical studies are warranted to better  
355 describe the therapeutic role, safety, and optimal management of intravenous lidocaine  
356 infusions for treatment of opioid-refractory pain in the pediatric population as well as its  
357 potential application in more diverse pain syndromes among children.

358 The authors have no conflict of interests to disclose.

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## Legends

**Figure 1.** The left panel shows the scatter plot and best fit trend-line of serum lidocaine level versus lidocaine infusion rate (triangles). The right panel shows the scatter plot and best fit trend-line of serum lidocaine level versus patient-rated pain scores (diamonds), with a statistically significant, moderately negative correlation coefficient.

**Figure 2.** The four leftmost panels represent the four patients (A-D) with pain ratings during the 14 individual lidocaine infusions (gray lines) and an average of all responses for that patient (heavy black lines). Pain ratings are recorded at initiation (START) of the lidocaine infusion, 4 hours into the infusion (4 HRS), and at the termination (END), although this time-point varied between infusions from 6 hours to 17 days. The rightmost pane represents the 7 individual lidocaine infusions where documented pain scores were available for the 24 hours after cessation of the lidocaine infusion, and the highest pain score recorded in that 24 hours without lidocaine (gray shaded) is noted (24 HRS).

**Figure 3.** The left boxplot shows pain ratings during the 14 individual lidocaine infusions for all 4 patients (A-D). The right boxplot shows pain ratings during and after the 7 individual lidocaine infusions in 3 patients (B-D) where documented pain scores were available for the 24 hours after cessation of the lidocaine infusion (the highest pain score recorded in that period is noted).

**Supplemental Appendix.** Clinical Practice Guideline for Intravenous Lidocaine Therapy at UMHS.

359 Table I. Patient demographics, previous pain therapies, and lidocaine infusion details

Patient	Age (years)	Weight (kg)	Gender	Primary Diagnosis	Previous Pain Therapies	Clinical Status	# of Infusions	Loading Dose (mg/kg)	Length of Each Infusion (days)	Initial Dose for Each Infusion (mcg/kg/min)	Dose Range for All Infusions (mcg/kg/min)	
A	17	59	♀	Metastatic osteosarcoma with primary mandible tumor	hydromorphone methadone ketamine dexamethasone diazepam cannabinoids	Deceased (17 months after initial infusion)	1*	0	2	35	35-40	None
B	18	68	♂	Metastatic teratoma of the	hydromorphone methadone	Deceased (4 months after	3	1 0	3 17	15 30	15-50	Blurred visual

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				retroperitoneum	ketamine diazepam lorazepam	initial infusion, continued at time of death)		0	10	30		(3rd
C	16	90	♀	Neurofibro- matosis type I with malignant peripheral nerve sheath tumor	methadone ketamine pregabalin duloxetine ibuprofen	Deceased (19 months after initial infusion)	8	1 1 1 1 0 1 1	2 4 0.4 0.2 0.6 1.5 1.6 1.9	15 15 33 33 33 36 25 33	15-38	Parent (1st/
D	8	32	♂	Metastatic rhabdo- myosarcoma	hydromorphone gabapentin methadone ketamine methylprednisolone lorazepam dexmedetomidine	Deceased (3 months after initial infusion, was receiving CLI for pain management at time of death)	2	1 1	10 10	20 20	20-40	Parent (both

360 \*Patient received one additional infusion outside of our institution while in home hospice

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362 Table II. Examples of long-term pain relief subsequent to cessation of lidocaine  
363 infusions

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Patient	Pain Score prior to Lidocaine Infusion	Pain Score at end of Lidocaine Infusion	Recorded Pain Score Remote from Lidocaine Infusion
A	10	3	4 at 4 months
B	4	2	0 at 6 days
C	9	4	2 at 2 weeks
D	7	0	0 at 2 days

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Table III. Serum lidocaine levels and symptoms of toxicity

Lidocaine level (mcg/mL)	Symptoms
4-6	Lightheadedness, perioral numbness, dizziness, transient hypertension

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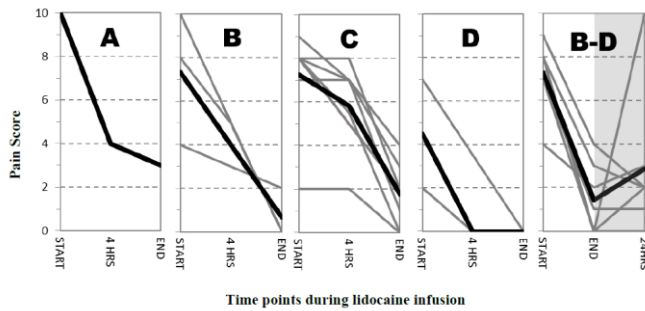
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8	Visual/auditory disturbances, dissociative effects, muscle twitching, hypotension
12	Convulsions
16	Coma
20	Respiratory arrest, cardiovascular collapse

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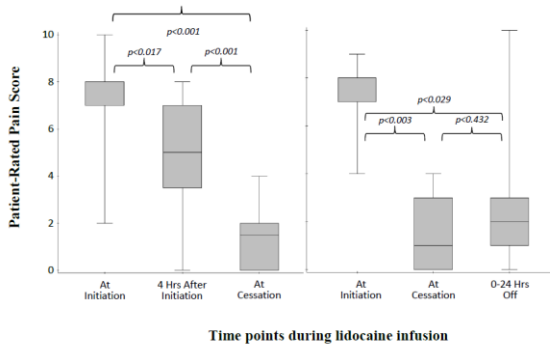
Figure 2. Pain scores at time-points during the lidocaine infusion



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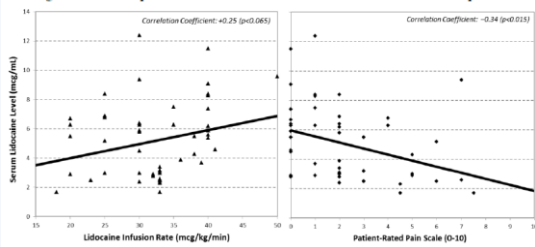
Figure 3. Boxplots of pain scores at varying time-points during and after lidocaine infusions



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Figure 1. Scatter plots of serum lidocaine level versus infusion rate and pain scores



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