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## **ACUTE PAIN MANAGEMENT IN PATIENTS WITH OPIOID MAINTENANCE THERAPY**

**Ghloamreza Kheirabadi**

Isfahan University of Medical Sciences, Iran

**M**ethadone & buprenorphine maintenance therapy (MMT & BMT) are the most common forms of opioid agonist therapy approved by all major medical and professional organizations concerned with addiction treatment. Patients on MMT & BMT are also susceptible to any acute or chronic medical & surgical problems. There are some misconceptions regarding the pain management in patients with opioid maintenance therapy including: maintenance of an opioid agonist (methadone or buprenorphine) provides analgesia; use of opioids for analgesia can result in addiction relapse; the additive effects of opioid analgesics and the opioid agonist therapy can cause respiratory

and central nervous system (CNS) depression; the pain complaint may be a manipulation of opioid drugs or drug-seeking because of opioid addiction. And there are some barriers to effective pain management in patients with opioid maintenance therapy including: deficiencies in clinician practice; inadequacies knowledge and skills; systems-related problems; misinformation about opioid analgesia & tolerance; labeling of aberrant behaviors (pain relief seeking) as abusive drug seeking. We discussed the various aspects of acute pain management in patients with opioid maintenance therapy in this lecture.

kheirabadi@bsrc.mui.ac.ir