



DEPARTMENT OF EPIDEMIOLOGY

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# Literature Review

## Patient, injury, provider and hospital characteristics associated with opioid use

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HARBORVIEW  
INJURY PREVENTION  
& RESEARCH CENTER

# Background

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**~80% of current heroin users report their opioid use beginning with nonmedical use of prescribed opioids**  
**~1/2 of injury patients who present to the Emergency Department (ED) are discharged with opioids**

**Evidence that psychological trauma can impact risk of opioid use dependency**



# Prior Research

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**Large body of work on sustained opioid use, but much less that focuses on the trauma population**

**Many studies group opioid and non-opioid drugs as one analgesic group**



# Question of Interest

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**Are there patient, injury, provider or hospital characteristics associated with opioid use during hospitalization, immediately post-discharge and in the year following injury?**



# Summary of Findings

	Opioid Use During:		
	Hospitalization	Post-discharge	Next Year following Injury
Patient	↑ White, ↓ black ↑ Injury ↓ Mental illness Insurance	↑ White, ↓ black ↑ Older ↑ Injury ↑ Married ↓ Male ↓ Anxiety diagnosis In hospital use*	↑ Pre-injury marijuana use ↑ Alcohol dependence ↑ Tobacco dependence ↑ Depression and anxiety ↑ History of trauma ↑ Perception of pain ↑ Filling discharge prescription ↑ Female Lower SES
Injury	↑ High pain score	↑ Fracture ↑ Surgery ↑ ISS	↑ Fracture ↑ Surgery ISS



# Summary of Findings

	Opioid Use During:		
	Hospitalization	Post-discharge	Next Year following Injury
Provider	↓ More experienced Attending Wide variability	↑ More experienced Attending	↑ High intensity provider
Hospital		↑ Urban ED, ↓ rural ED Regional differences	↑ Patient reports of well-managed pain



# Conclusion

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**Injury and trauma were associated with opioid use in hospital, immediately following discharge and long-term.**

**Future studies should explore provide and hospital characteristics associated with opioid use.**

**Conflicting results between national studies and single-site studies -> importance of verifying findings with state and national data.**

