

Objectives

- Explain the neurophysiology of pain including the effects of developmental immaturity upon pain transmission and pain perception in infants
- Discuss the pathophysiology of acute pain as well as the factors that influence the presence and perception of pain and describe the methods commonly used to assess for pain in infants
- Outline the frequently used nonpharmacologic and pharmacologic approaches to pain management in infants including their application to specific types of pain

Content Outline

1. Overview of the Developmental Neurophysiology & Pathophysiology of Pain
2. Clinical Assessment of Pain
 - 2.1 Factors that influence pain
 - 2.1.1 Biologic factors
 - 2.1.2 Behavioral state
 - 2.1.3 Gestational age
 - 2.1.4 Pain characteristics
 - 2.1.5 Parents & caregivers
3. Pain Management
 - 3.1 Nonpharmacologic
 - 3.1.1 Swaddling
 - 3.1.2 Nonnutritive sucking (NNS)
 - 3.1.3 Sucrose
 - 3.2 Pharmacologic
 - 3.2.1 Opioids
 - 3.2.2 Nonopioids
 - 3.2.3 Epidural anesthesia & analgesia
 - 3.2.4 Adjunctive drugs
 - 3.3 Management of specific pain types

Reading Material Resources

This self assessment module is based on the resources listed below.

The reading materials are in the form of a PDF file and can be accessed from the online testing center once the module is purchased.

Chapter 17: Pain in the Newborn and Infant, Comprehensive Neonatal Care, An Interdisciplinary Approach, Kenner, Saunders Elsevier, 2007, pages 360-371.