

Table S1 The detailed GRADE profile

Quality assessment							No of patients		Effect		Quality	Importance
No of studies	Design	Risk of bias	Inconsistency	Indirectness	Imprecision	Other considerations	PCA	EA	Relative (95% CI)	Absolute (95% CI)		
Pain Scores 1h (measured with: VAS; Better indicated by lower values)												
5	randomised trials	serious ¹	no serious inconsistency	no serious indirectness	no serious imprecision	reporting bias ²	442	442	-	MD 1.9 higher (0.47 to 3.33 higher)	LOW	CRITICAL
Pain Scores 2h (Better indicated by lower values)												
3	randomised trials	serious ¹	no serious inconsistency	no serious indirectness	no serious imprecision	none	30	28	-	MD 2.96 higher (0.7 to 5.21 higher)	MODERATE	CRITICAL
Nausea												
4	randomised trials	no serious risk of bias	no serious inconsistency	no serious indirectness	serious ³	none	44/431 (10.2%)	50/431 (11.6%)	RR 0.87 (0.6 to 1.26)	15 fewer per 1000 (from 46 fewer to 30 more)	MODERATE	IMPORTANT
								20%		26 fewer per 1000 (from 80 fewer to 52 more) ⁵		
Itching												
3	randomised trials	no serious risk of bias	no serious inconsistency	no serious indirectness	serious ⁴	none	7/407 (1.7%)	16/410 (3.9%)	RR 0.46 (0.2 to 1.07)	21 fewer per 1000 (from 31 fewer to 3 more)	MODERATE	IMPORTANT
								15%		81 fewer per 1000 (from 120 fewer to 11 more) ⁵		
Vomiting												
3	randomised trials	no serious risk of bias	no serious inconsistency	no serious indirectness	serious ³	none	11/27 (40.7%)	4/30 (13.3%)	RR 2.91 (1.0	255 more per 1000 (from 4 more to 963	MODERATE	IMPORTANT