

Appendix 4. Outcome measures

Anxiety and distress measures: Taylor Anxiety Scale; State Trait Anxiety Inventory; Mood Adjective Checklist; Visual Analog Scales (VAS); self-report on a Likert Scales; Assessment by the nurse on a Likert scale; Gottschalk-Gleser Anxiety Scales; Profile of Mood States tension-anxiety item; Positive and Negative Affect Scale.

Pain intensity measures: self-report of intensity or frequency of pain on a Likert Scale, VAS or a Verbal Rating Scale; McGill Pain Inventory.

Pain medication measures: dose of analgesics used; morphine equivalent dose of analgesics used; dichotomous scoring of pain medication (eg. no pain medication required vs. pain medication required; or 3 or less doses of pain medication used vs. more than 3 doses used); frequency of self-medication attempts with Patient Controlled Analgesia pump.

Nausea measures: self-report of nausea on a Likert Scale, VAS or with a simple yes or no answer to a question like “did you feel nausea after the operation?”; assessment of nurses about nausea on a Likert Scale; number of nausea complaints.