



Trends in opioid analgesics retail distribution in Washington State (WA) and the United States: 2001-2006. Note: Data from the Drug Enforcement Administration's Automation of Reports and Consolidated Orders System (ARCOS)¹ used to explore trends in retail distribution of major prescription opioid analgesics through commercial channels in WA and in US between 2001 and 2006, the latest year for which data are publicly available. Information on drugs' route of administration is not available in the ARCOS data; we assumed oral administration of all drugs and calculated their equivalent analgesic potency (conversion to mg oral morphine) using the equianalgesic conversion table described by Sullivan et al².

1. Drug Enforcement Administration. Automation of Reports and Consolidated Orders System. Retail Drug Summary. Available at: http://www.deadiversion.usdoj.gov/arcos/retail_drug_summary/index.html. Retrieved January 30, 2012.

2. Sullivan MD, Edlund MJ, Fan MY, Devries A, Brennan Braden J, Martin BC. Trends in use of opioids for non-cancer pain conditions 2000-2005 in commercial and Medicaid insurance plans: the TROUP study. *Pain*. 2008 Aug 31;138:440-9.

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