**Appendix B: Characteristics of Excluded Studies**

| **Author/Year** | **Title** | **Reason for Exclusion** |
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| Aglio 2018 | Preemptive analgesia for postoperative pain relief in thoracolumbosacral spine operations: a double-blind, placebo-controlled randomized trial | The study reported outcomes in the acute setting only |
| Aguirre 2012 | Continuous epicapsular ropivacaine 0.3% infusion after minimally invasive hip arthroplasty: A prospective, randomized, double-blinded, placebo-controlled study comparing continuous wound infusion with morphine patient-controlled analgesia | The study evaluated regional/local techniques for analgesia |
| Ahlers 2012 | Efficacy of an intravenous bolus of morphine 2.5 versus morphine 7.5 mg for procedural pain relief in postoperative cardiothoracic patients in the intensive care unit: a randomised double-blind controlled trial | The study has no placebo group |
| Altiparmak 2018 | Effect of magnesium sulfate on anesthesia depth, awareness incidence, and postoperative pain scores in obstetric patients. A double-blind randomized controlled trial | The study reported outcomes in the acute setting only |
| Andjelkovic 2018 | Influence of dexmedetomidine and lidocaine on perioperative opioid consumption in laparoscopic intestine resection: a randomized controlled clinical trial | Patients were followed for less than 3 months |
| Bedin 2017 | Duloxetine as an Analgesic Reduces Opioid Consumption After Spine Surgery: A Randomized, Double-Blind, Controlled Study | The study reported outcomes in the acute setting only |
| Bielka 2018 | Dexmedetomidine infusion as an analgesic adjuvant during laparoscopic sholecystectomy: a randomized controlled study | Open label trial |
| Bourazani 2019 | The Role of Muscle Relaxants - Spasmolytic (Thiocochlicoside) in Postoperative Pain Management after Mastectomy and Breast Reconstruction | The study reported outcomes in the acute setting only |
| Castillo 2017 | Improving pain management and long-term outcomes following high-energy orthopaedic trauma (pain study) | This is the publication of a protocol |
| de Hoogd 2018 | Randomized Controlled Trial on the Influence of Intraoperative Remifentanil versus Fentanyl on Acute and Chronic Pain after Cardiac Surgery | Single blind trial |
| de Hoogd 2019 | Short- and long-term impact of remifentanil on thermal detection and pain thresholds after cardiac surgery: A randomised controlled trial | The study has no placebo group |
| Dewinter 2017 | Systemic lidocaine fails to improve postoperative morphine consumption, postoperative recovery and quality of life in patients undergoing posterior spinal arthrodesis. A double-blind, randomized, placebo-controlled trial | Patients were followed for less than 3 months |
| Duzenli 2019 | The Effect of Nitrous Oxide on the Outcomes of Underlay Tympanoplasty: A Prospective Study | There is no mention of blinding. |
| Eloy 2017 | Gabapentin does not appear to improve postoperative pain and sleep patterns in patients who concomitantly receive regional anesthesia for lower extremity orthopedic surgery: A randomized control trial | The study reported outcomes in the acute setting only |
| Elsersy 2017 | Intraoperative magnesium sulphate decreases agitation and pain in patients undergoing functional endoscopic surgery | The study reported outcomes in the acute setting only |
| Forster 2018 | Intravenous infusion of lidocaine significantly reduces propofol dose for colonoscopy: a randomised placebo-controlled study | The study reported outcomes in the acute setting only |
| Ghezel-Ahmadi 2019 | Perioperative systemic magnesium sulphate to minimize acute and chronic post-thoracotomy pain: a prospective observational study | Observational study - not an RCT |
| Huang 2017 | Intravenous and Topical Tranexamic Acid Alone Are Superior to Tourniquet Use for Primary Total Knee Arthroplasty: A Prospective, Randomized Controlled Trial | Not a chronic pain prevention trial. The purpose of the trial was to minimize surgical blood loss.  |
| Ji 2018 | Effects of propofol anesthesia versus sevoflurane anesthesia on postoperative pain after radical gastrectomy: a randomized controlled trial | The study has no placebo group |
| Jiang 2018 | Effect of Intravenous Oxycodone in Combination With Different Doses of Dexmedetomdine on Sleep Quality and Visceral Pain in Patients After Abdominal Surgery: A Randomized Study | The study reported outcomes in the acute setting only |
| Kanbur 2017 | The effect of pregabalin and methylcobalamin combination on the chronic post-thoracotomy pain syndrome | Not preventative, pain already established  |
| Khashan 2016 | Effect of preemptive intra-articular morphine and ketamine on pain after arthroscopic rotator cuff repair: a prospective, double-blind, randomized controlled study | The study evaluated regional/local techniques for analgesia |
| Kim 2017 | Comparison of clinical efficacy among remifentanil, nicardipine, and remifentanil plus nicardipine continuous infusion for hypotensive anesthesia during arthroscopic shoulder surgery | The study reported outcomes in the acute setting only |
| Kim 2018 | Carbon dioxide insufflation during endoscopic resection of large colorectal polyps can reduce post-procedure abdominal pain: a prospective, double-blind, randomized controlled trial | The study reported outcomes in the acute setting only |
| Koh 2019 | Duloxetine Reduces Pain and Improves Quality of Recovery Following Total Knee Arthroplasty in Centrally Sensitized Patients: A Prospective, Randomized Controlled Study | The study has no placebo group |
| Lee 2018 | A prospective randomized trial of continuous paravertebral infusion versus intravenous patient-controlled analgesia after thoracoscopic lobectomy for lung cancer | The study has no placebo group |
| Li 2018 | Effect of dexmedetomidine on perioperative stress and postoperative pain in patients with radical resection of esophageal cancer under combined thoracoscope and laparoscope. Chinese |  There is no mention of blinding |
| Lou 2017 | Effect of perioperative multi-day low dose ketamine infusion on prevention of postmastectomy pain syndrome | There is no mention of blinding |
| Mao 2018 | Efficacy of perineural dexamethasone with ropivacaine in thoracic paravertebral block for postoperative analgesia in elective thoracotomy: a randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled trial | The study evaluated regional/local techniques for analgesia |
| Markman 2018 | Efficacy of pregabalin in post-traumatic peripheral neuropathic pain: a randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled phase 3 trial | Not preventative, pain already established |
| Mercieri 2017 | Low-dose buprenorphine infusion to prevent postoperative hyperalgesia in patients undergoing major lung surgery and remifentanil infusion: a double-blind, randomized, active-controlled trial | The study has no placebo group |
| Metin 2017 | prevent chronic postoperative pain: systematic | Not preventive study; pain is already established |
| Mishra 2013 | review with a meta-analysis of randomized trials" | The study has no placebo group |
| Miyazaki 2016 | Is early postoperative administration of pregabalin beneficial forpatients with lung cancer?—randomized control trial | Open label trial |
| Moeen 2019 | Usage of intravenous lidocaine infusion with enhanced recovery pathway in patients scheduled for open radical cystectomy: A randomized trial | The study reported outcomes in the acute setting only |
| Morel 2016 | Memantine before Mastectomy Prevents Post-Surgery Pain: A Randomized, Blinded Clinical Trial in Surgical Patients | Single blind trial |
| Morue 2018 | Placebo versus low-dose ketamine infusion in addition to remifentanil target-controlled infusion for conscious sedation during oocyte retrieval: a double-blinded, randomised controlled trial | The study reported outcomes in the acute setting only |
| Nguyen 2015 | Pregabalin in Chronic post-thoracotomy pain | Not preventive study; pain is already established |
| Nielsen 2018 | Adjuvant analgesics for spine surgery | This is a thesis dissertation that cites three already included studies |
| Samoladas 2019 | Intraoperative epidural application of steroid and local anaesthetic agent following lumbar discectomy: a prospective double blinded randomized controlled trial | The study evaluated regional/local techniques for analgesia |
| Shanthanna 2018 | Satisfactory Analgesia with Minimal Emesis in Day Surgeries (SAME DayS): a protocol for a randomised controlled trial of morphine versus hydromorphone | This is the publication of a protocol |
| Shanthanna 2019 | Satisfactory analgesia with minimal emesis in day surgeries: a randomised controlled trial of morphine versus hydromorphone | The study has no placebo group |
| Tanmahasamut 2017 | Postoperative desogestrel for pelvic endometriosis-related pain: a randomized controlled trial | This study is about preventing endometriosis-related pain, not pain caused by tissue injury |
| van Gulik 2012 | A dose-finding study of gabapentin for post-cesarean delivery pain management: Limited efficacy of a single preoperative dose | The study has no placebo group |
| Veitz-Keenan 2018 | Single dose oral prednisolone and post-operative endodontic pain | The study reported outcomes in the acute setting only |