GENERAL INFORMATION									
Course name	Opioids in Clinical Practice								
Course director	Assoc. Prof. Ivan Radoš, MD, PhD								
Assistants									
Study program	Integrated undergraduate and graduate university study program Medical Studies in German								
Course status	Elective								
Year of study, semester	5 th year, 10 th semester								
Credits allocated and form of instruction	ECTS student workload	1							
TOTTI OF INSTRUCTION									

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Course objectives

Obtaining knowledge about pharmacodynamics and pharmacokinetics of opioids, the use of opioids in practice, clinical indications for the use of opioids and clinical guidelines and protocols for analgesia.

Course requirements

There are no specific requirements for this course except those defined in the study program curriculum.

Learning outcomes at the Programme level

1.1., 1.2., 2.1., 3.1., 3.4., 4.1., 4.2.

Expected learning outcomes (5-10 learning outcomes)

After passing the Transfusion medicine exam, the student will be able to interpret and draw conclusions related to the acquired knowledge in the field of:

- 1. Define opioids
- 2. Indications for the use of opioids, effects and side effects of opioids, pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics of opioids
- 3. Types of opioids, routes and techniques of administration
- 4. Analgesia protocol
- 5. Ethics in research and use of opioids
- 6. Opioid abuse

Course content

What defines opioids? Historical overview. Morphine derivatives, define opioids, examples of opioid and non-opioid treatment. Overview of opioids in clinical use: indications, effects of opioid therapy, side effects of opioids, complications of opioid administration, opioid antagonists. New opioids and systems for their administration. Overview of alternative routes of opioid administration: transdermal therapeutic systems, continuous administration via PCA – indications, contraindications and side effects in the administration of opioids by alternative routes. Equianalgesic effect: define equianalgesic effect and comparison of doses of parenterally and perorally administered drugs, comparison of equianalgesic doses of different opioids. Pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics. Differences in pharmacodynamics and pharmacokinetics between peroral and parenteral administration of opioids. Transplacental transfer of opioids. Assessment of opioid effect using dynamic rating scales.

Switching from non-opioid to opioid therapy and vice versa. Reasons for switching from non-opioid therapy to opioid therapy. Calculation of the required dose of the drug. How to get back? Withdrawal syndrome. Analgesia protocol. Methods of administration of opioids in special clinical situations: Administration of opioids at home. Opioids for cancer pain. Administration of opioids in children. Opioids and the elderly. Ethics in the administration and research of opioids. Informed consent. Common problems in opioid research studies. Additional analgesia.

Opioid effect assessment: patient's attitude towards treatment success. The attitude of doctors											
towards opioid treatment. Addiction problem as a side effect of medical treatment. Opioid abuse: non-medical use of opioids, analysis of Canadian National Statistics, opioid											
	preparations as addictive agents, addiction in pregnant women and newborns, organization of										
treatment and taking care of addicts.											
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evaluated numerically and descriptively (insufficient (1), sufficient (2), good (3), very good (4), excellent (5)). During classes, a student can earn a maximum of 100 points. Students can earn											
	a maximum of 20 points during classes through different types of activities. On the final exam,										
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The quality of course performance is monitored through an anonymous student survey on the											
quality of the organization and conduction of classes, the course content and the work of											
	professors. The usefulness of the lectures from the students' perspective, the curriculum										
content, the professor preparedness, the clarity of the presentation, the amount of new content											

and the quality of the presentation are evaluated. The curriculum and its execution are administratively compared. The participation of students in lectures and exercises, as well as the excuses for missing classes, are controlled and analyzed.