

## Letter to the Editor

# Celiac Plexus Block

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Sir,

Chronic abdominal pain is a well-known problem in patients with carcinoma of the bowel or pancreas. The pain often causes great discomfort to the patient, and is stressful for the relatives and treating doctor. The possibility of the patient becoming addicted to the narcotic pain relief is also high.

Celiac plexus block has been a well-known procedure to control chronic pain for the past several years. The block, which can be done by different approaches with various drugs, carries a variable percentage of complication.

In Amiri Hospital, we have been using the procedure for the last two years. During this period, we have performed this procedure four times on a total of three patients. One patients had the procedure was done twice; the second time after six months. Three of these patients did not need any narcotic analgesic from the fourth day on, while one required additional pain relief.

The block was done under X-ray guidance using Marcain 0.5% and absolute alcohol.

In conclusion, despite the popularity of the procedure worldwide, our experience remains limited. Further use of this procedure is necessary in Amiri Hospital as well as all other facilities where pain relief is necessary.

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