Effects of a Reduced Opiate Prescription Protocol on Post-Discharge Pill Consumption

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Disclosures / COI

- I have no financial conflicts of interest.
Few or no opiates needed post-discharge after RALP

Will patients take fewer pills if fewer pills are prescribed?

Pill requirements prospectively recorded in 193 RALP, 73 partial nephrectomy patients
- RALP: 137 pre-intervention, 56 post-intervention
- RAPN: 44 pre-intervention, 29 post-intervention

BIDMC/Lahey prescribing protocols changed to 5 post-discharge oxycodone pills for RALP, 15 for RAPN
Key Results

After lowering pills prescribed:

- Similar percentage of patients who took zero pills post-discharge for RALP (47% vs. 41%) and 2 or fewer pills post-discharge (66% in each group)

- Slight decrease in percentage of patients who took zero pills post-discharge for RAPN (48% vs. 34%)

Reducing pill prescription quantities reduced excess pills by approximately 2,000 compared to prior protocol

Reducing pill prescription does not appear to lower post-discharge pill use