Chapter 44:

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

On completion of the chapter, the reader will be able to:

1. Define pain.
2. Describe the epidemiology of pain.
3. Discuss nociceptive pain pathophysiology, including transduction, transmission, perception, and modulation.
4. Discuss and list examples of neuropathic pain.
5. Explain the patient-oriented approach to pain assessment.
6. Characterize the difference between acute and chronic pain.
7. Describe the usual doses of the nonopioids and opioids indicated for pain.
8. Discuss the pharmacology of the opioid analgesics.
9. Explain the advantages of combining opioid and nonopioid therapy in the management of pain.
10. Outline the management of cancer pain, including drug selection, dosing, monitoring, and patient education.
11. Compare and contrast the treatment of chronic noncancer pain with that of acute pain and cancer pain.
12. Discuss nonpharmacologic treatment options for acute, chronic noncancer, and cancer pain.
13. Explain why the elderly and very young are at higher risk than other populations for under-treatment of pain.
14. Explain pharmacologic titration of pain in evaluating therapeutic outcomes.
15. Explain the importance of a multidisciplinary approach to pain.