Ask an Informationist

Engaging with the evidence

Michele Gaca and Helen Baxter
Austin Health Sciences Library

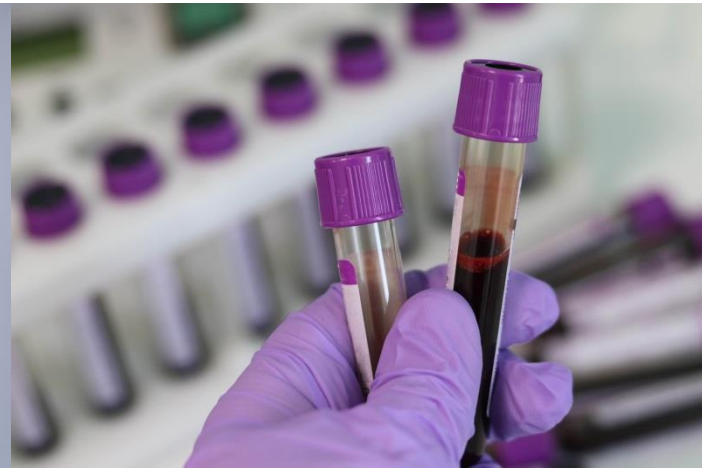
Austin HEALTH

Issue

For clinicians today, the amount of information available can be overwhelming.

Does emerging evidence question existing practices; or has a previous finding been overturned through new research?

These key questions inform evidence-based practice decisions, enabling delivery of the most appropriate level of care.

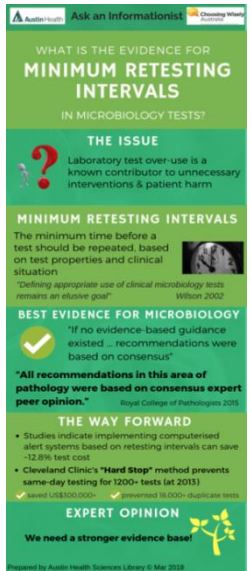


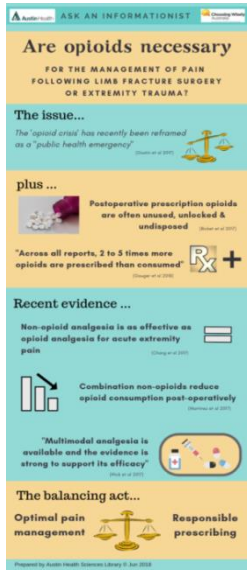
Objective

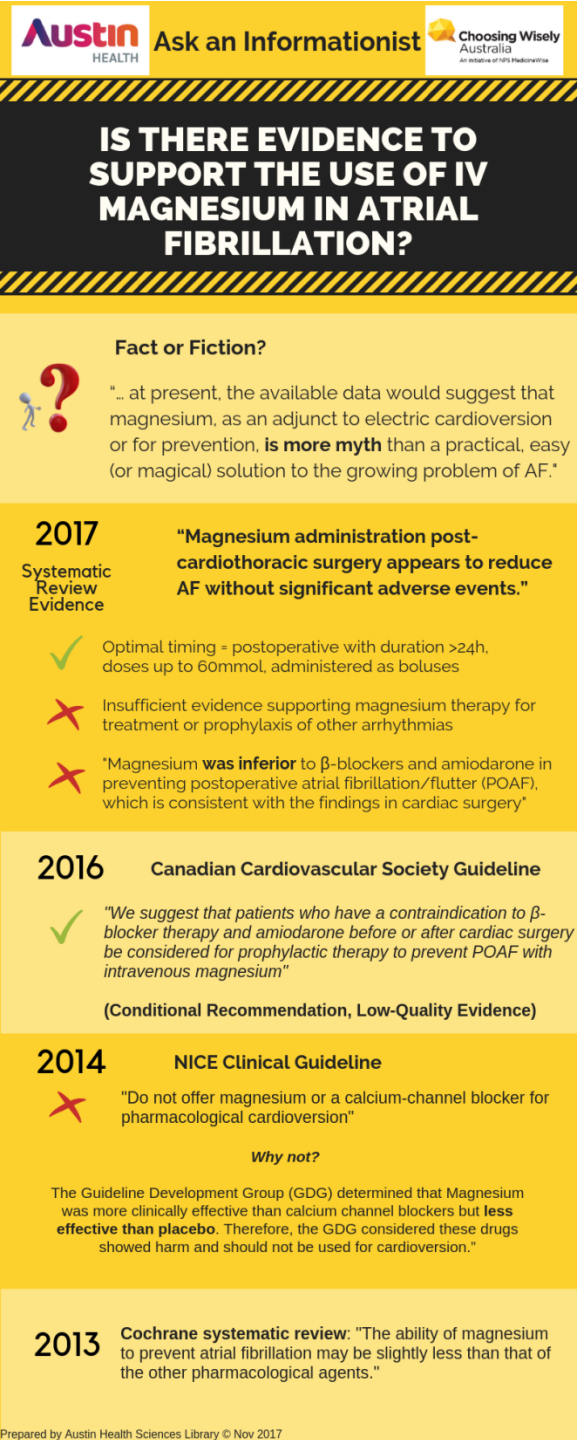
Ask an Informationist is an initiative that translates clinical questions into practice.

A clinical question is submitted to the Austin Health Choosing Wisely Steering Committee.

The Austin Health Sciences Library team create an infographic as a visual summary of the available evidence, supported by a written report.







Impact

When coupled with audit data or local policies and procedures, this provides an evidence-rich foundation for clinicians to initiate change and “Choose Wisely” in their delivery of patient care.

Through this collaboration we are:

- engaging with the evidence
- encouraging critical thinking
- shaping the future of our patient care

Outcome

To date, six infographics and reports have been produced and have been made publicly available.

The initiative has:

- driven change in emergency department practice for intravenous magnesium use;
- led to delivery of clinical education around PPIs through workshops and media activities;
- been a catalyst for broader discussion around opioid use throughout the hospital.

www.austin.org.au/cw-ask/

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