An Evaluation of Opioid **Prescribing Patterns in Residents** and Attendings in Breast Surgery



AUTHORS

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BACKGROUND: Residents are often significant prescribers at teaching facilities and have previously cited "attending preference" as an important influence in opioid prescription practices. This study evaluates resident and faculty preferences in opioid prescribing after breast surgery and compares stated preferences to actual opioids prescribed.

METHODS

- 1. Surveyed surgical residents, breast attendings, and plastic surgery attendings to assess number of 5mg oxycodone tablets recommended on discharge
- 2. Retrospectively reviewed opioids prescribed on discharge for opioid-naïve patients undergoing common breast procedures
- Data analyzed with descriptive statistics 3.

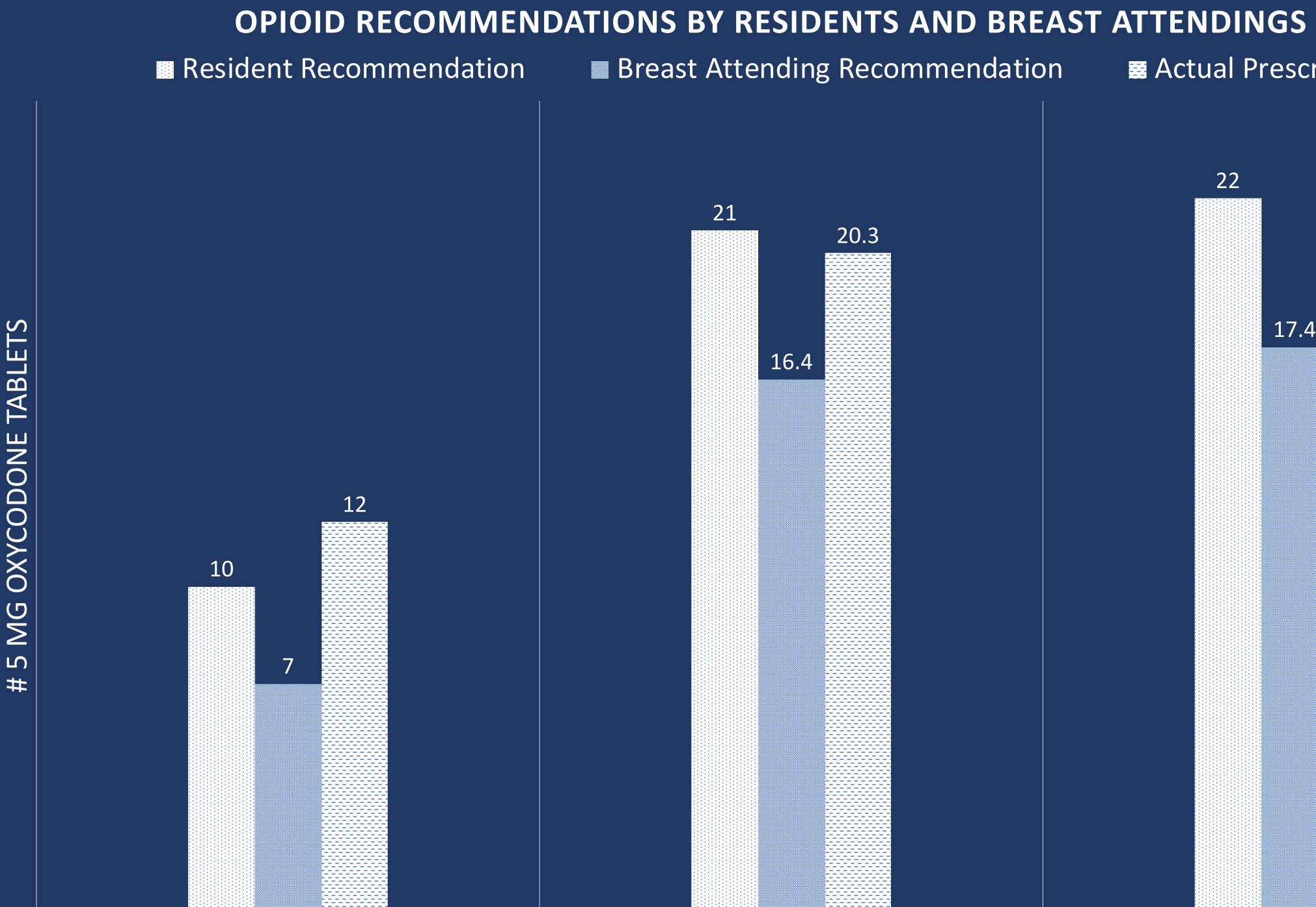
Recommended vs Actual Opioids Prescribed on Discharge				
		Breast	Plastic	
		Surgery	Surgery	
	Residents	Attendings	Attendings	Actual Discharge
Procedure	(N=56)	(N=5)	(N=4)	Prescription
Lumpectomy				
± SLNBx	10 [0-30]	7 [0-15]	N/A	12 [0-50] <i>,</i> N=244
Mastectomy				
± SLNBx	21 [8-40]	16.4 [10-30]	N/A	20.3 [0-40], N=28
Modified				
radical				
mastectomy	22 [10-50]	17.4 [10-30]	N/A	15.3 [0-30] <i>,</i> N=13
Mastectomy				
+ TE	N/A	23.8 [10-30]	29.5 [25-35]	26.3 [5-80] <i>,</i> N=90
Mastectomy				
+ DIEP flap	N/A	35 [30-50]	38.75 [25-50]	32.8 [20-55], N=13
			<u>56.75 [25-50]</u>	ξ],

RESULTS

All results show number of 5mg oxycodone tablets expressed as Mean [Range]. N/A = not assessed. SLNBx = sentinel lymph node biopsy. TE = tissue expander. DIEP: deep inferior epigastric perforator.

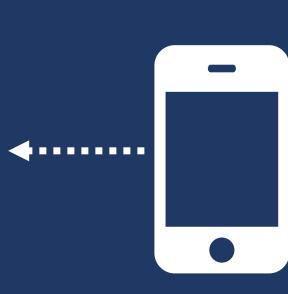


Consistent and appropriate opioid prescription requires improved resident education and attending communication.



LUMPECTOMY ± SLNBX





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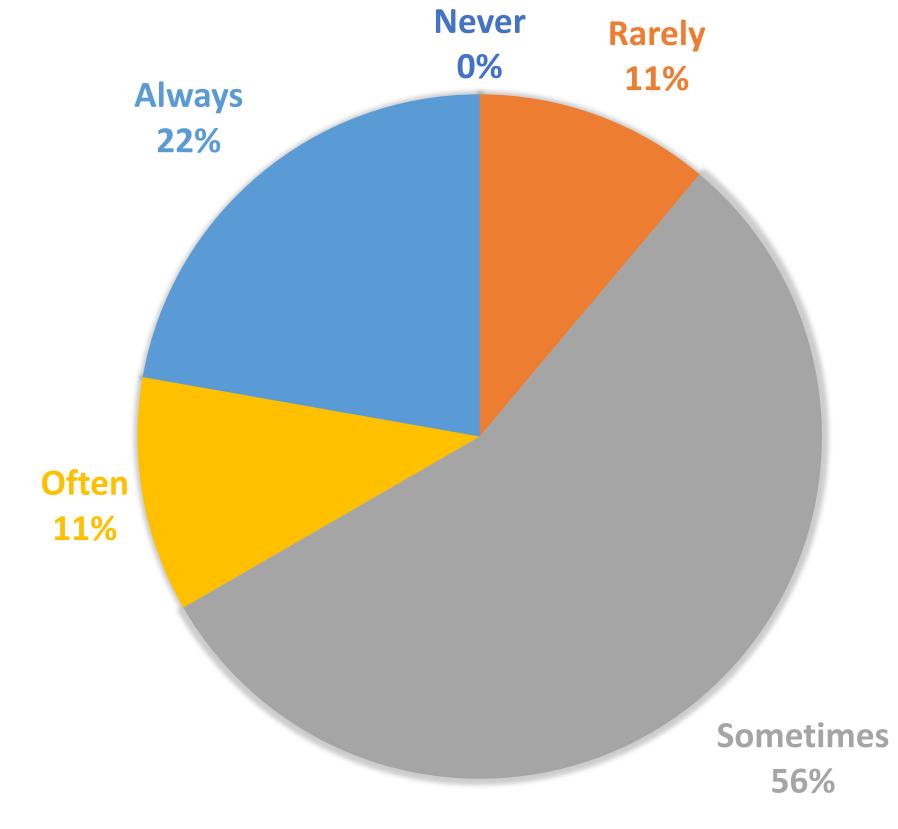
22 15.3

Actual Prescription

MASTECTOMY ± SLNBX

MODIFIED RADICAL MASTECTOMY

Attendings: I specify the type and quantity of opioids I would like prescribed on discharge to my resident.



Residents: The attending specifies to me the quantity he or she wants the patient to be prescribed on discharge.

