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## Animal Models of Neuropathic Pain

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### ABSTRACT

Creature models are urgent for comprehension the system of neuropathic pain and improvement of powerful treatment for its ideal administration. A battery of neuropathic torment models has been produced to reproduce the clinical agony conditions with different etiology. The present audit thoroughly examines the procedure, behavioural adjustments, limits, and focal points of around 40 diverse creature models of neuropathic pain alongside their changes. Improvement of these models has helped tremendously in understanding the interminable pain and underlying fringe and focal pathogenic instruments. Moreover, scrutinize has brought about the improvement of new helpful operators for neuropathic agony administration, and the preclinical information acquired utilizing these creature models have been progressively meant powerful torment administration in clinical setup likewise. As every creature model has been made with particular strategy and results have a tendency to change to a great extent with the slight progressions identified with strategy, along these lines, it is vital that information from distinctive models ought to be accounted for and deciphered in the connection of the particular torment model.

**Keywords:** Neuropathic pain, Animal models, Model specification

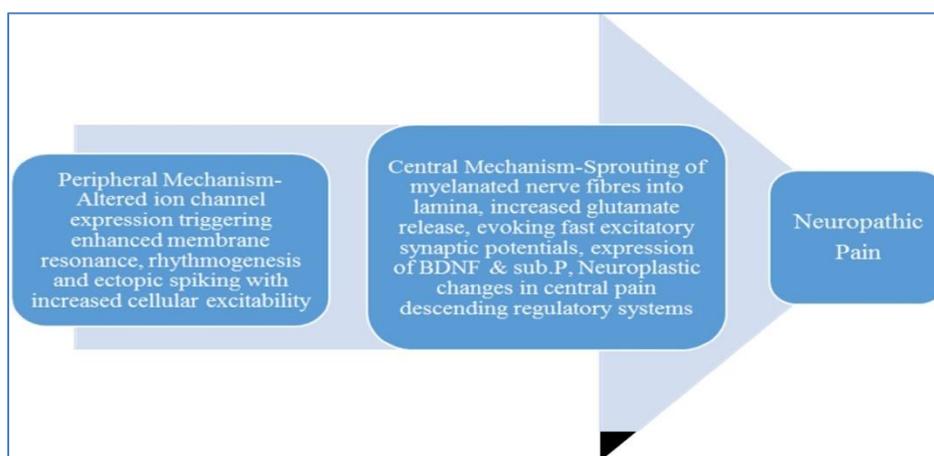
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## INTRODUCTION

Neuropathy is a brokenness of nerves prompting loss of sensation. Albeit numerous individuals create neuropathy, a set number of those individuals happen to encounter torment connected with their manifestations. This condition is known as frightful neuropathy, and the pain is depicted as neuropathic torment. The particular reason that torment creates with neuropathy isn't known. A few speculations have been proposed; one hypothesis recommends that when nerve cells are not able to direct tangible motivations or messages, spontaneous action starts inside the nerve cells that the cerebrum deciphers as agony. Dissimilar to pain that happens in light of a damage, neuropathic torment happens without any related incitement. On occasion, neuropathic torment may be connected with a misrepresented or uplifted affectability to typical incitement, (for example, a light touch or the vibe of dress) and these sensations may be misconstrued as agony. Pain is special to everybody. In that capacity, the words used to depict neuropathic torment may fluctuate. Successive portrayals incorporate pricking, shivering, copying, wounding, or hurting. The agony may be available on a consistent premise, or it can wax and wind down in force. As portrayed, the pain is regularly exhibit without related incitement, however activities, for example, bearing weight might significantly fuel or exacerbate the agony. Creature ailment models are prescient for signs seen in infection. They might infrequently copy all signs in a particular infection in people regarding etiology, reason or improvement. Distinctive sorts of creature models have been created for diverse pain states and the modification of conduct has been translated as a reaction to outer boost or outflow of agony or uneasiness.<sup>1,2</sup>



**Figure-1: An overview of the peripheral and sensory mechanisms leading to neuropathic pain**

### Animal Models of Neuropathic Pain

#### 1. Spared nerve injury preclinical model of Neuropathic Pain

2. Spinal Nerve Ligation (SNL) preclinical model of Neuropathic Pain
3. Spinal nerve transection preclinical model of Neuropathic Pain
4. Chronic constriction injury (CCI) preclinical model of Neuropathic Pain
5. Partial sciatic nerve injury preclinical model of Neuropathic Pain
6. STZ-induced Diabetic Neuropathy - preclinical model of Neuropathic Pain
7. Taxol-induced peripheral neuropathy
8. Vincristine induced peripheral neuropathy (VIPN)
9. Sciatica model of Neuropathic Pain

### **Spared nerve injury preclinical model of neuropathic pain**

This is a novel creature model of neuropathic pain created by Decosterd and Woolf<sup>1</sup>. In this model, rats are anesthetized, skin on the parallel surface of the left thigh is shaved and a division is made specifically through the biceps femoral muscle. The sciatic nerve and its three terminal extensions are uncovered: the sural, the regular peroneal, and the tibial nerves. From that point, the tibial and the regular peroneal nerves are firmly ligated with 5–0 silk took after by axotomy of 2 mm of distal nerve. A huge forethought is taken to stay away from any contact with or extending the sural nerve and accordingly, the sural nerve stay undamaged. In this model, one nerve (sural) is spared (saved) and other two nerves (tibial and normal peroneal) are axotomized, so this model is alluded as 'Spared Nerve Injury (SNI) model'. Two variations of SNI harm of the sciatic nerve have likewise been created utilizing the same surgical strategies, however with distinctive consolidations of nerve transections. In one variation, the normal peroneal and the sural nerves are segmented, leaving the tibial nerve (t) in place (Sniv(t)); while in an alternate variation, the tibial nerve is harmed leaving the sural(s) and normal peroneal (cp) nerves in place (Sniv(s,cp))<sup>3,4</sup>. The mechanical and warm hyperalgesia and allodynia have been noted to happen inside 4 days of harm, which endure for a few weeks (up to 6 months) post-damage<sup>1, 3</sup>. The responsiveness to harmful and non-poisonous boosts is expanded in the ipsilateral sural and to a minor degree at saphenous area<sup>2</sup>. The pain delivered in SNI model is mechanically autonomous of the thoughtful framework<sup>3</sup>. It has been depicted that mice likewise indicate comparable behavioural modifications, subjected to SNI as seen in rats<sup>3, 7</sup>. This model is not quite the same as other fringe nerve damage models like CCI, PSL, and SNL, on the grounds that it permits the examination of contrast in mechanical and warm sensitivities of non-harmed skin regions bordering to the denervated ranges. This peculiarity is imperative on the grounds that it permits the synchronous investigational changes in both harmed essential tangible neurons and in neighbouring unharmed tangible neurons, so their relative contribution to the pathophysiology of agony could be explored.

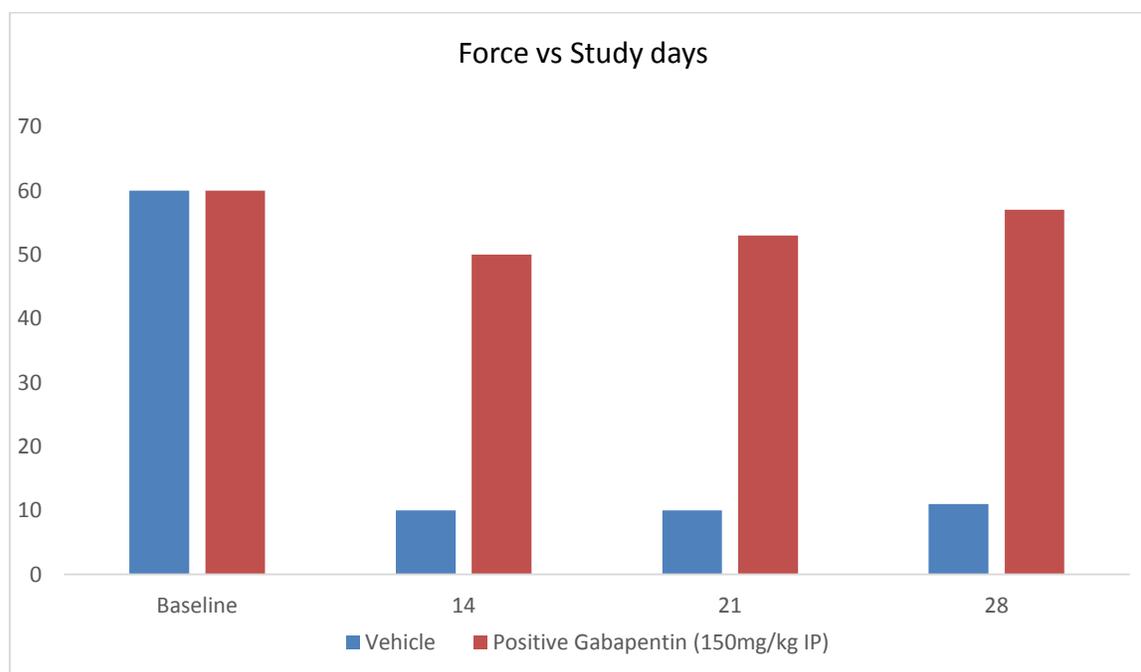
The late studies have highlighted the vital commitment of non-harmed neurons to neuropathic torment counting ectopic movement in C-strands, anomalous expression of tactile voltage-gated sodium channels, augmentation of the transient receptor potential channel (Trpv1), and actuation of Schwann cells. In this model, the progressions in mechanical and warm sensitivities are vigorous, generous, delayed time, and nearly copy numerous gimmicks of clinical neuropathic pain<sup>7,8</sup>.

### Spinal Nerve Ligation (SNL) preclinical model of Neuropathic Pain

The spinal nerve ligation (SNL) model, developed by Kim and Chung, is a model of mono neuropathy simulating causalgia. The L5 and L6 spinal nerves are ligated distal to the dorsal root ganglion. It is a highly reproducible and robust model that mimics acute and chronic neuropathic pain states in the human.

### Model Specifications

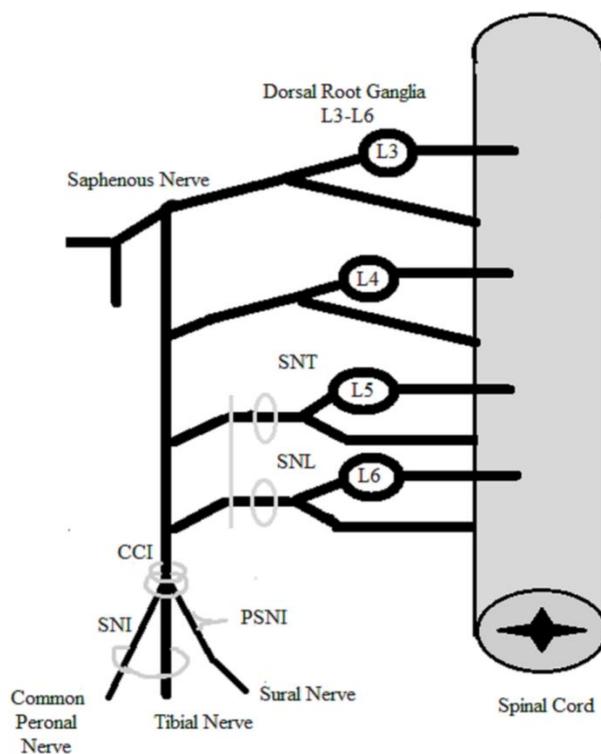
- Model length - up to 42 days
- Positive control: morphine, gabapentin, pregabalin
- Readouts: tactile allodynia (Von Frey), cold allodynia
- Endpoints: histology, biomarker analysis (protein or mRNA levels in sciatic nerve or serum/plasma)



**Figure-2: Allodynia in the rat SNL model**

The SNL model is connected with improvement of long haul touchiness to mechanical and cool jolts and in addition spontaneous torment like conduct. These practices create rapidly after

ligation<sup>9, 10</sup>. The advancement of high temperature touchiness is more variable and not found in all trial conditions. The first form of the SNL model, created by Kim and Chung, included a tight ligation of both the L5 and L6 spinal nerves<sup>9</sup>. An entry point is made along the spinal section and the left paraspinal muscles are divided from the spinous methods at the L4-S2 levels. Under a secluded elite stereomicroscope, the L5 spinal nerve is confined and 1–3mm of the nerve is ligated distal to the dorsal root ganglia. Uncommon forethought ought to be taken to stay away from any harm to the L4 spinal nerve. In view of discoveries that just 0.4% of all sciatic afferents dwells in the L6 dorsal root ganglions<sup>11</sup>, the surgical technique these days regularly includes a harm just to the L5 spinal nerve. A few studies have affirmed that this alteration has an exceptionally restricted impact on the result<sup>2, 9, 12</sup>. From that point forward the SNL model has additionally been utilized as a part of mice with comparative qualities as seen in rats<sup>13</sup>.



**Figure-3: Injury positions for generation of animal models of neuropathic pain. (A) Spared nerve injury, SNI<sup>17</sup>, (B) spinal nerve ligation, SNL<sup>9</sup>, (C) spinal nerve transection, SNT<sup>18</sup>, (D) chronic constriction injury, CCI<sup>19</sup> and (E) partial sciatic nerve injury, PSNI<sup>20</sup>.**

The behavioural signs coming about because of SNL surgery, e.g. guarding, licking and lifting of the ipsilateral paw, may demonstrate clinical face legitimacy. Hyperalgesia, allodynia-like conduct and spontaneous torment propose high legitimacy, as these side effects may be available in patients with neuropathic agony. Contrasted with different models, the SNL model is not connected with

autonomy, i.e. scratching and gnawing of the denervated rear paw. A conceivable clarification is that the rear paws still are innervated in the SNL model and that the sensation is saved as well as overstated. Conversely, in the CCI and SNI model, the rear appendage or some piece of it is denervated and totally insensate<sup>14, 16</sup>. A fascinating perception in the SNL model is that glutamate uptake was lessened by 72% in the ipsilateral dorsal horn, in correlation to sham worked rats six weeks after surgery. This was expected to concealment of the excitatory amino corrosive transporters and/or capacities and may be a typical system for sharpening notwithstanding creature model, as SNL, SNT and also CCI all lead to authoritative abatement in declaration and capacity of this transporter<sup>15</sup>.

### **Spinal nerve transection preclinical model of Neuropathic Pain**

The SNT model was initially created as a continuation and approval of the SNL model. Clearly, the SNT model produces comparable comes about as did the SNL model. Sheen and Chung<sup>18</sup> could thusly infer that the SNT model takes after the SNL display, and could be utilized as a creature model for neuropathic torment too<sup>18</sup>. Notwithstanding, it has been recommended that this model fails to offer the nearby incendiary segment that is available in the CCI, halfway sciatic nerve damage (PSNI) and SNL models<sup>15, 21</sup>. As in the SNL model, a cut is made along the spinal section furthermore the left paraspinal muscles are divided from the spinal forms at the L4-S2 levels. Under a measured superior stereomicroscope, the L5 spinal nerve is detained and 1–3mm of the nerve is extracted distal to the dorsal root ganglia.

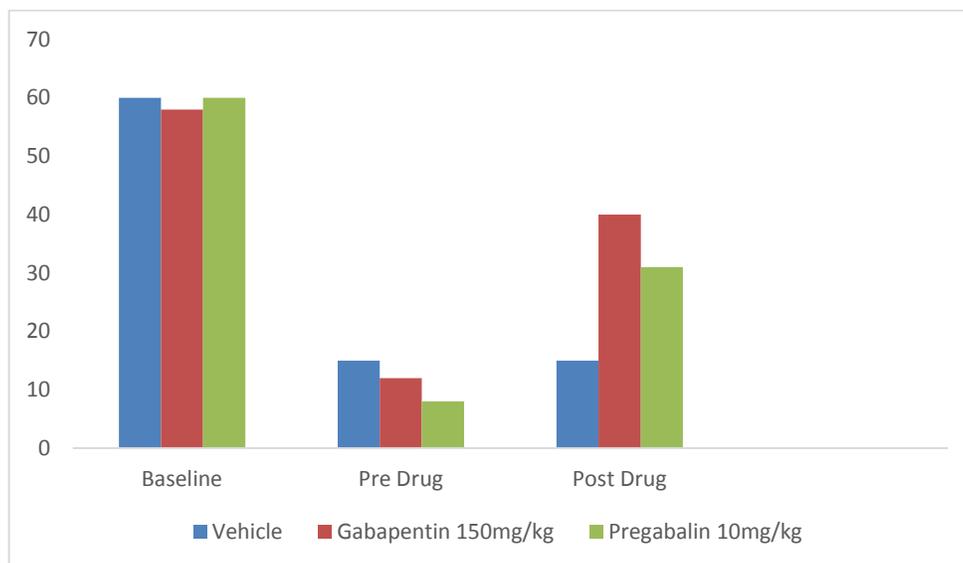
### **Chronic constriction injury (CCI) preclinical model of Neuropathic Pain**

The chronic constriction injury (CCI) model, developed by Bennett and Xie<sup>[22]</sup> is a model of mono neuropathy induced by ligation to the sciatic nerve. The damage to the peripheral nerves is involved with infiltration by mast cells, granulocytes, macrophages and T lymphocytes. These cells via secretion of inflammatory mediators (e.g. pro inflammatory cytokines and chemokine's) contribute to the generation and maintenance of neuropathic pain. The CCI is one of the most common models for peripheral nerve injury and carries a lot of the inflammatory characterization related to the condition/disease. The inflammatory component is present mainly in the first phase of the disease (up to day 14) while the neuropathic component is primarily in the second half of disease (after day 14) as can be seen in the biomarkers.

### **Model Specifications**

- Model length - up to 28 days
- Positive control: morphine, gabapentin, pregabalin
- Readouts: tactile allodynia (Von Frey), thermal hyperalgesia

- Endpoints: histology, biomarker analysis (protein or mRNA levels in sciatic nerve or serum/plasma)



**Figure 4: Allodynia in the rat CCI model**

A ceaseless excruciating fringe neuropathy creates after CCI surgery because of a fringe provocative response accordingly to the ligatures. This is trailed by a loss of a large portion of the substantial myelinated A<sub>β</sub>-strands, some myelinated A<sub>β</sub>-filaments and some little non-myelinated C-strands.<sup>23</sup> Mixed indications of neuropathic torment and incendiary parts make the CCI demonstrate closest to emulating neuropathic agony in people<sup>21</sup>. The sciatic nerve gets data from L4, L5 and L6, which implies that CCI influences a more extensive scope of lumbar spinal line levels, than does the more proximal SNT or SNL of L5<sup>15</sup>. Hence, by influencing a more extensive scope of lumbar spinal rope levels utilizing CCI, it may result in a more noteworthy neuro chemical furthermore metabolic reaction than those in e.g. SNT<sup>17</sup>. CCI likewise heads to the improvement of allodynia-like conduct, hyperalgesia and spontaneous torment like practices, which regularly achieve greatest 10-14 days after surgery<sup>23-26</sup>. CCI-worked creatures create allodynia-like conduct to cool and mechanical boosts, and variable warm hyperalgesia<sup>27</sup>.

#### **Partial sciatic nerve injury preclinical model of Neuropathic Pain**

In the PSNI model, allodynia-like conduct and hyperalgesia keep going for up to seven months<sup>25, 26, 28</sup>. In examination to CCI, the PSNI model is connected with less incendiary segments<sup>25</sup>. Emulating damage, the creature creates a guarding conduct of the harmed rear appendage proposing the likelihood of spontaneous agony. Allodynia-like conduct to mechanical boosts and additionally warm hyperalgesia and two-sided mechanical hyperalgesia are likewise created<sup>27</sup>. A disservice concerning PSNI is the way that an indistinct number of neurons is ligated, making it

confused to relate the harm to a particular dorsal root ganglion<sup>25</sup>. On the other hand, this may be considered preference, as damage actuated by PSNI may reproduce neuropathic agony in people where a few dorsal root ganglions are incorporated.

### STZ-induced Diabetic Neuropathy - preclinical model of Neuropathic Pain

STZ is usually used to incite sort II diabetes and diabetes related entanglements including diabetic fringe neuropathy. There are numerous speculations on the system that includes fringe neuropathy after STZ. A portion of the components recommended are identified with the hyperglycaemic state of the rats proposing that after the hyperglycaemia, nerve endings are harmed either through an incendiary process or meddling with blood supply (ischemia of the micro vessels). In any case, limitless studies are additionally recommending a system of neuronal harm that happens after STZ yet it is disconnected to the hyperglycaemic state of the creatures. These studies propose immediate harm to the nerves. For instance, receptive oxygen species (ROS) intercede rise of Trpv1 in neurons and the DRG is exposed to STZ in vitro. Hence, this model includes immediate changes in the nerves that are not identified with the incendiary procedure.

### Model Specifications

- Model length - up to 25 days
- Positive control: morphine, gabapentin
- Readouts: Blood glucose estimations, material/mechanical allodynia, mechanical hyperalgesia
- Endpoints: histology, biomarker dissection (protein or mRNA levels in sciatic nerve or serum/plasma)

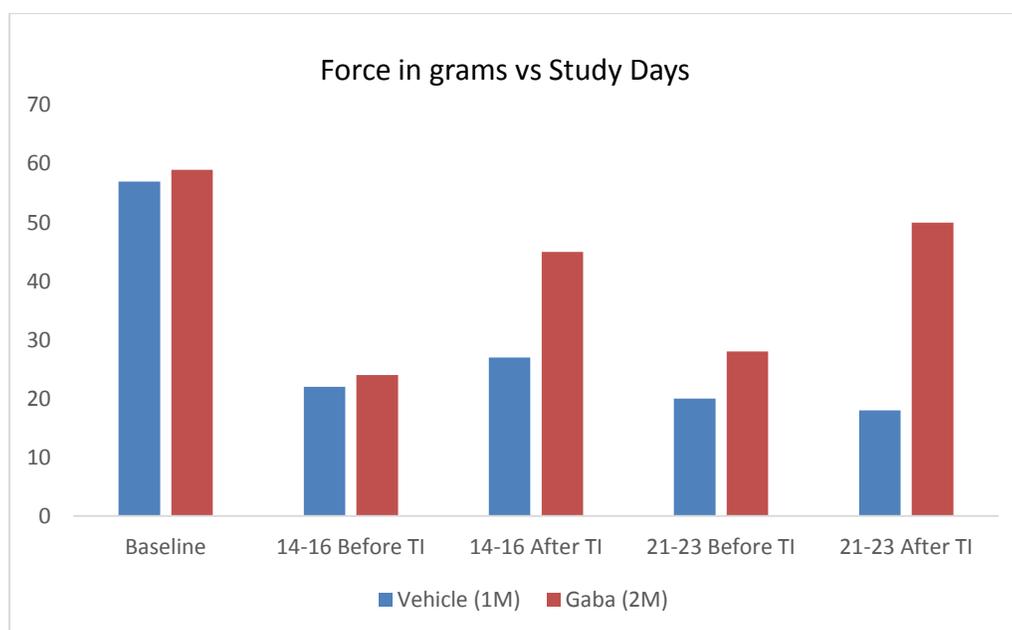
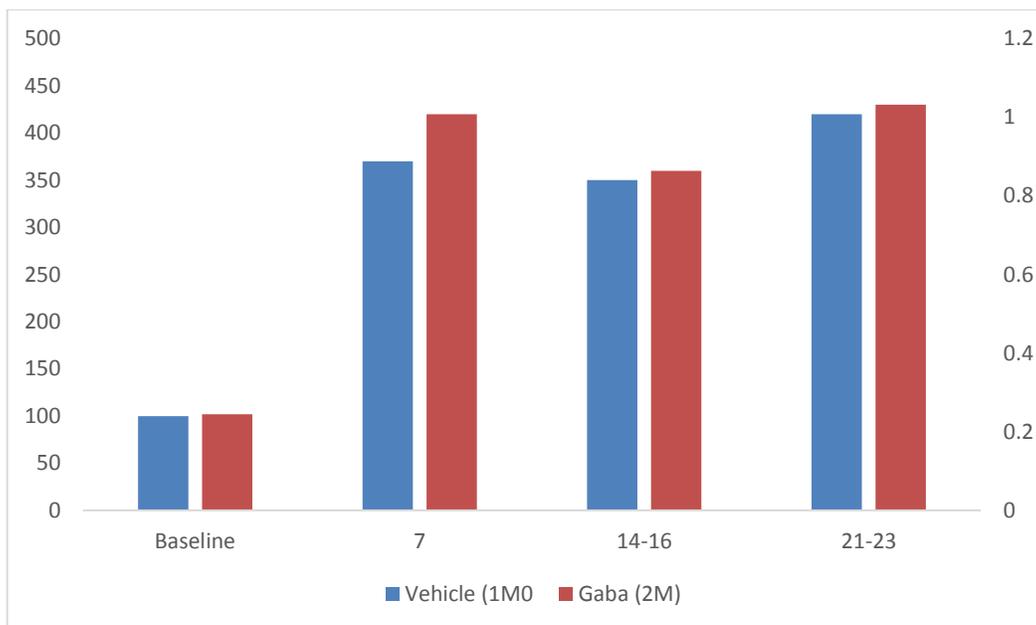


Figure-5: Allodynia STZ-model of diabetic neuropathy



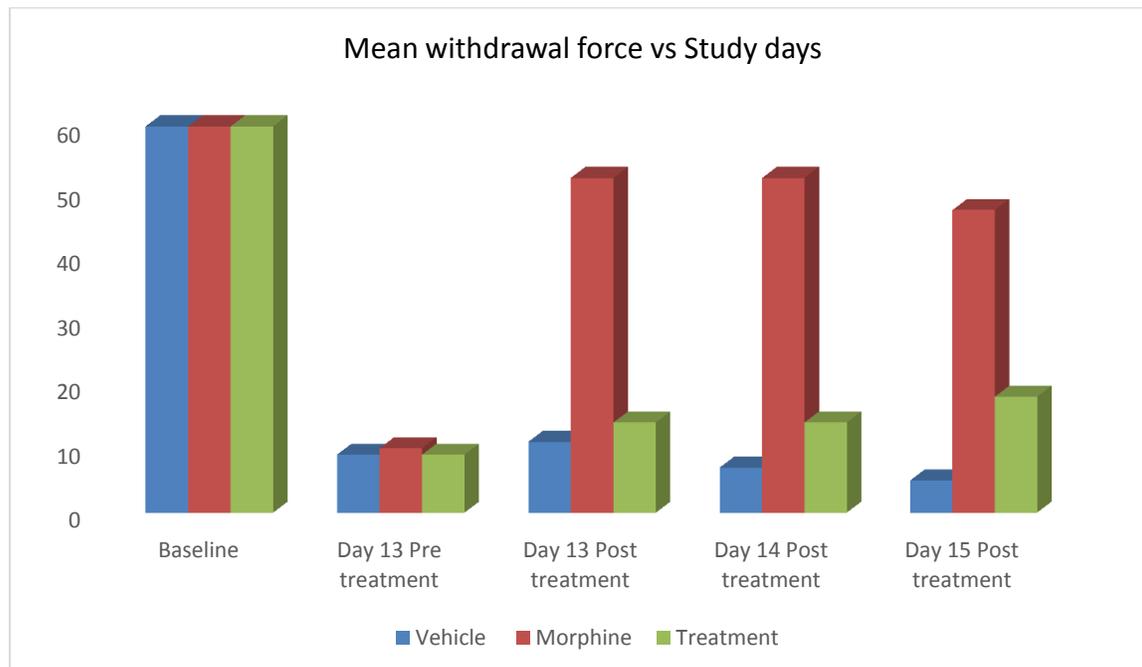
**Figure 6: Blood glucose level in STZ-model**

### **Taxol-induced peripheral neuropathy**

Neurotoxicity and Peripheral neuropathy are normal reactions of executors utilized for chemotherapy. Paclitaxel (taxol) is an antineoplastic operator used to treat an assortment of diseases. The adequacy of taxol as a chemotherapy executor is constrained because of the advancement of agony fringe neuropathy. A preclinical torment model impelled by taxol impersonates the excruciating fringe condition that usually comes about because of chemotherapy medicines.

### **Model Specifications**

- Model length - up to 15 days
- Positive control: morphine
- Readouts: material/mechanical allodynia, warm hyperalgesia
- Endpoints: histology, biomarker examination (protein or mRNA levels in sciatic nerve or serum/plasma)



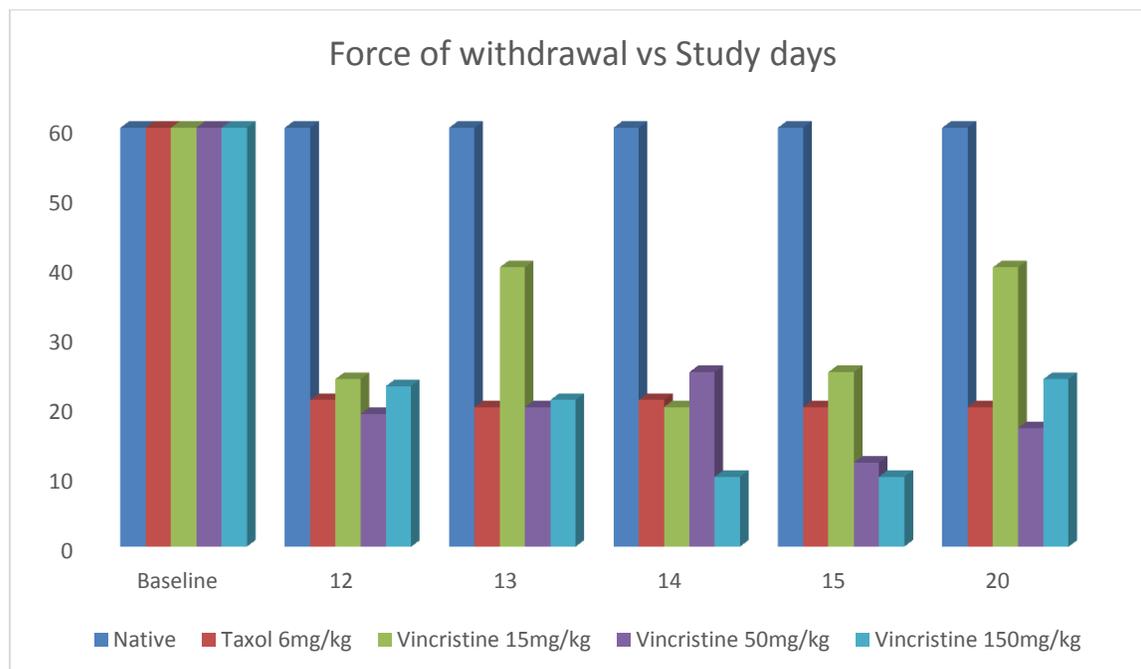
**Figure 7: Allodyniataxol model**

### Vincristine induced peripheral neuropathy (VIPN)

Neurotoxicity and Peripheral neuropathy are normal symptoms of operators utilized for chemotherapy. Vincristine is regularly used to treat leukaemias and lymphomas. A symptom however is fringe neuropathy and is a restricting component for dosage levels needed for against tumourimpacts. Preclinical neuropathy models affected with Vincristine imitate the fringe neuropathy that regularly comes about because of chemotherapy medicines.

### Model Specifications

- Model length - up to 20 days
- Positive control: morphine
- Readouts: material/mechanical allodynia, warm hyperalgesia
- Endpoints: histology, biomarker dissection (protein or mRNA levels in sciatic nerve or serum/plasma)



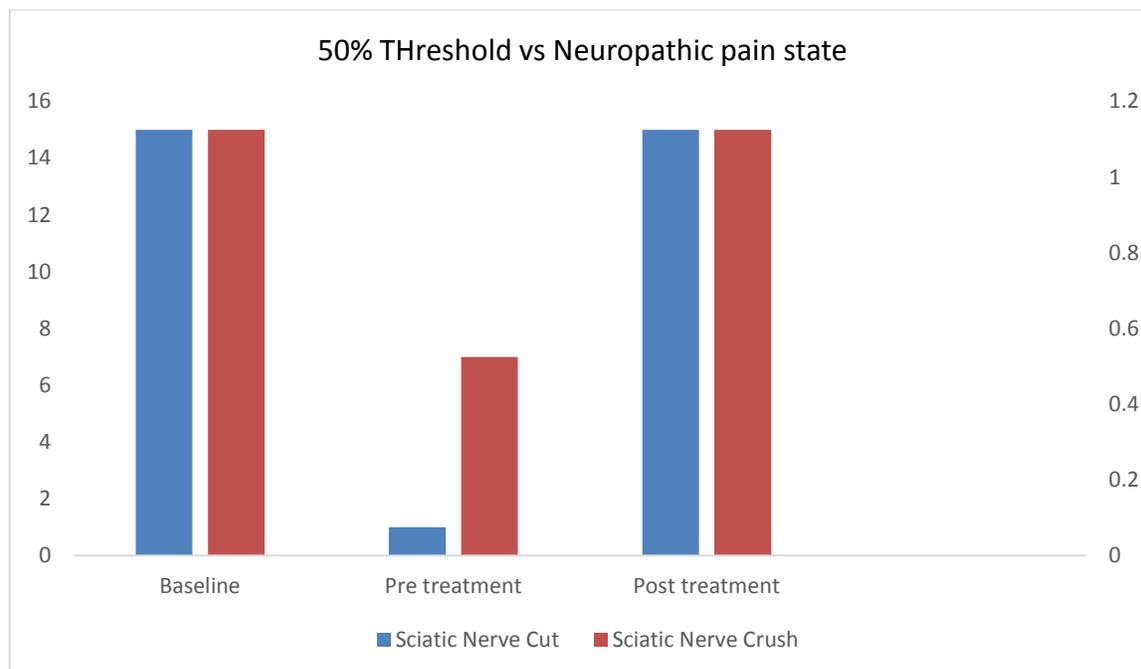
**Figure 8: Allodynia in vincristine model**

### Sciatica model of Neuropathic Pain

The impelling of neuropathic agony in the sciatica model is carried out by making damage specifically on the sciatic nerve, minimizing any incendiary segment. Nerve harm might be made by either pulverizing of the sciatic nerve in two areas with a non-traumatic cut or by cutting the sciatic nerve. The nerve smash system creates a less claimed agony and the creatures will recuperate from the method more rapidly than the nerve cutting strategy. Moreover, for treatments that are thought to be neuroprotective or push nerve recovery, fractional nerve harm utilizing the nerve pound strategy will permit immediate treatment to the nerve. The pig was the picked species for this model because of the likenesses in innervation and also different frameworks, for example, the skin and cardiovascular framework. This model is suitable for assessing viability and PK/PD in the same study giving more clinical pertinent information.

### Model Specifications

- Model length - up to 21 days
- Positive control: morphine
- Readouts: Von Frey, chilly allodynia, pin prick, weight bearing
- Endpoints: histology, biomarker examination (protein or mRNA levels in sciatic nerve or serum/plasma)



**Figure 9: Von Frey measurements for pre-and post-treatment with 1 mg/kg morphine.**

### The Use of Animals Models in the Development of Drug Therapy for Neuropathic Pain

The greater part of dynamic medication tried in neuropathic pain have standard allele result in clinical pain states and additionally in the creature models used to express pain signs<sup>29,30</sup>. An array of working principles of the drugs from traditional butt-centric gesics, for example opioids, prostaglandin inhibitors, medications expanding transmitter discharge, distinctive sorts of sodium or calcium channel blockers, excitatory amino corrosive modulators cytokine receptor blockers and distinctive neurotrophins have been utilized with impact in creature models of neuropathic pain. Clinical trials of those medications tried in patients have additionally demonstrated a general pharmacological sensitivity somewhere around 61 and 81%<sup>23, 31</sup>. This recommends that the creature models may have esteem in the advancement of new medications for the administration, or treatment, of neuropathic agony. A successful medication trial in animals does not generally anticipate a clinically useful impact. To begin with, the nature, cause and progression of a nerve sore and degeneration are more intricate than a straight forward ligation. The movement of the nerve harm and in addition instigated defensive biochemical components may change with time and is presumably not generally the same as in the animal models. Second, an essential distinction is that most creatures in a pharmacologic test react to the given drug. In the clinic only a few patients respond and adverse impacts may be a restriction for positive reaction at higher measurements. Thusly, creature models might just be demonstrative and a quest for more satisfactory and touchy checking of unfriendly impacts in the animal models is highly warranted as

well. Third, it is still dubious whether spontaneous pain, a serious problem in patients, is present in the creature models. There are still no approved apparatuses or strategies to measure spontaneous pain in the creature and subsequently, it is unrealistic to assess any pharmacologic impact on this sort of torment. Despite the fact that the creature models utilized may have prescient esteem within studies on new pain relieving medication substances for treatment of neuropathic torment manifestations in patients, there are still much learning to be picked up in the pathophysiologic systems for the advancement of the torment disorder, its upkeep and movement. Suggestions: Better understanding of pathogenic systems of neuropathic torment in creature models may help the quest for new treatment ideal models in patients with complex neuropathic torment condition.

## CONCLUSION

As neuropathic pain has different etiology, diverse creature models of neuropathic pain have been made. Models focused around ligation interceded fringe nerve damage has been utilized. Notwithstanding, models focused around transection of nerve limbs of fringe nerve have unique preferences and are continuously utilized all the much more these days. Spinal hemi section what's more excitotoxin-actuated SCI are the models of decision for understanding focal pain components. Moreover, the pain demonstrates chemotherapeutic executors, diabetes, HIV, ethanol, and others have likewise been utilized by distinctive exploration bunches for comprehension the pathogenesis and for administration of agony because of individual etiology in clinical setup.

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