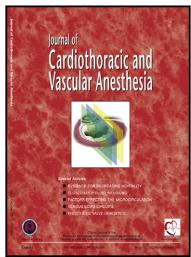
# Author's Accepted Manuscript

Trends and New Evidence in the Management of Acute and Chronic Post-thoracotomy Pain – An Overview of the Literature from 2005 to 2015

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### **ACCEPTED MANUSCRIPT**

Trends and New Evidence in the Management of Acute and Chronic Post-thoracotomy Pain

- An Overview of the Literature from 2005 to 2015

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#### **INTRODUCTION**

In addition to being a major stressor, thoracotomies are associated with moderate-to-severe pain, impairment of respiratory function, protracted recovery, and the potential for the development of chronic pain. In fact, of all surgical procedures, thoracotomies may create the greatest demand for post-operative analgesia. Even after less invasive techniques, such as video and robotic-assisted thoracoscopic surgery, postoperative pain is of considerable concern. Uncontrolled post-thoracotomy pain has important implications for a patient's recovery and can add significant morbidity and increase health-care costs. Absence of adequate post-thoracotomy analgesia in patients undergoing lung surgery may be associated with delayed postoperative

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