



## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

## Re: evaluation of the efficacy of erector spinae plane block and intercostal nerve block in the postherpetic neuralgia

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To the Editor,

We read the article "Evaluation of the efficacy of erector spinae plane block and intercostal nerve block in the postherpetic neuralgia" by Gülçin Hacıbeyoğlu et al.<sup>[1]</sup> with great interest. We congratulate the authors for their effort and the study. The authors had tried to explore the efficacy of Erector spinae block in Postherpetic neuralgia comparing it with Intercostal block in a retrospective study, we wanted to highlight few relevant points pertinent to the study. Since the study group was of postherpetic neuralgia, what were the dermatomes involved in each patients and whether the ESP or ICN blocks were given at different levels or a single level; a subgroup analysis would help us understand the efficacy in a better way. How did the author decide upon the level of blocks?

Again, it was mentioned the procedure was repeated in 14.3% in group 2 and 61.1% in group 1 patients.<sup>[1]</sup> Since it was a statistically significant difference, we would request the authors to reveal whether these patients required to repeat intervention more than once. Regarding the rescue analgesia there was no standardization of treatment, so as it does not confound the outcome of the intervention, as group 1 had to undergo for repeat block in a significant percentage of population. Can we comment on efficacy of any block if it's not standardized is the issue.

### Reference

1. Hacıbeyoğlu G, Arıcan Ş, Ulukaya SO, Yılmaz R, Reisli R, Tuncer Uzun S. Evaluation of the efficacy of erector spinae plane block and intercostal nerve block in the postherpetic neuralgia. Agri 2020;32(4):208–18. [\[CrossRef\]](#)

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