

Outcome	No of participants (trials)	Effect (SMD, 95% CI)	Certainty of evidence (GRADE)	Comments
Pain at 6h	641 (5RCTs)	-1.66 [-2.50, -0.71]	⊕⊕ Low	High heterogeneity ($I^2=94%$); consistent direction of benefit
Pain at 12h	641 (5RCTs)	-2.13 [-3.18,	⊕ Moderate	Strong effect; some inconsistency

		- 1 . 0 8]		cy; robust CI
Pain at 24 h	641 (5 RCTs)	- 2 . 0 6 [- 3 . 2 0 , - 0 . 9 1]	Low	Very high heterogeneity ($I^2 = 96\%$); effect remains in favor of corticosteroids
Pain at 48 h	641 (5 RCTs)	- 1 . 3 8 [- 2 . 1 5 , - 0 . 6	Low	Sustained benefit; heterogeneity persists

		1]		
Rescue medication	641 (5 RCTs)	RR ~ 0.40 [95% CI 0.25 - 0.64]	⊠ Moderate	Rescue intake consistently lower vs placebo

Table S3A. Summary of Findings: Corticosteroids versus placebo.

GRADE summary of pain reduction at 6, 12, 24, and 48 h and rescue medication use. Certainty of evidence rated moderate to low, reflecting consistent benefit direction but high heterogeneity.

Outcome	No of participants (trials)	Effect size (SMD), 95%	Certainty of evidence (GRADE)	Comments
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		C I)		
P ai n at 6 h	24 4 (4 R C Ts)	- 3 .2 2 [- 5 .0 9 , - 1 .3 5]	R^2 Low	Ve ry lar ge eff ect , but $R^2=$ 97 %; inc on sis ten t ma gni tud es
P ai n at 12 h	24 4 (4 R C	- 1 .7 3 [R^2 Moderate	Eff ect ro bu st; so

	Ts)	- 3 . 0 4 . - 0 . 4 1]		me het er og en eit y
P ai n at 24 h	24 4 (4 R C Ts)	- 3 . 8 6 [- 6 . 5 0 . - 1 .	Low	Ve ry hig h het er og en eit y (I ² =9 8 %) ;

		2 3]		eff ect dir ect ion co nsi ste nt
P ai n at 48 h	24 4 (4 R C Ts)	- 3 . 5 1 [- 5 . 9 0 , - 1 . 1 1]	Low	La rg e be nef it but su bst ant ial het er og en eit y

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Table S3B. Summary of Findings: NSAIDs versus placebo.

GRADE evidence synthesis showing significant short-term analgesic benefit of NSAIDs versus placebo.

Certainty rated moderate due to imprecision and variability in dosing and route.

Outcome	No of participants (trials)	Effect (SMD, 95% CI)	Certainty of evidence (GRADE)	Comments
Pain at 6 hours	13 8 (2 RCTs)	1. 25 [- 0. 10 , 2. 60]	⊕⊕ Low	NSAIDs showed faster relief; wide CI; inconsistency

P ai n at 12 h	13 8 (2 R C Ts)	0. 55 [- 2. 04 , 3. 13]	Very low	No sig nifi ca nt diff er en ce; ve ry hig h ρ^2 (9 8 %)
P ai n at 24 h	13 8 (2 R C Ts)	0. 38 [- 2. 35 , 3. 11]	Very low	No cle ar diff er en ce; Cl sp an

				s be ne fit for bo th
P ai n at 48 h	13 8 (2 R C Ts)	0. 08 [- 2. 30 , 2. 46]	Very low	No sig nifi ca nt eff ect ; hig h im pr eci sio n
R es cu e m	13 8 (2 R C	N ot co ns ist	Very low	Ev ide nc e ins

ed ic ati on	Ts)	en tly re po rte d		uffi cie nt; no t all R CT s re po rte d ou tco m e
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Table S3C: Summary of Findings: Corticosteroids versus NSAIDs.

GRADE assessment of direct head-to-head comparisons showing no significant difference in pain reduction, with moderate certainty. NSAIDs favored early relief, while corticosteroids maintained prolonged effects.