Critique author	Ed Whitney

Bibliographic Data	
Authors	Wen W, Sitar S,et al
Title	A multicenter, randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled trial to assess the efficacy and safety of single-entity, once-daily hydrocodone tablets in patients with uncontrolled moderate to severe chronic low back pain.
PMID	26111544
Citation	Expert Opin Pharmacother. 2015;16(11):1593-606
Other information if relevant	

Methods	
Aim of study	To assess the efficacy and safety of once-daily hydrocodone for patients with moderate to severe chronic low back pain
Design	Randomized double blind trial preceded by an open-label run-in dose titration period

Reasons not to cite as evidence
- The primary efficacy outcome, pain score difference at the end of the 12 week double-blind period, is described only in terms of p values with graphic presentation of data rather than numeric effect sizes - The low p value is likely to be attributable to the fairly large sample size (N=588) with a small therapeutic effect from the appearance of Figure 3 where the primary outcome is displayed - The effect of hydrocodone appears to be in line with that of other opioids for chronic low back pain

Additional references or comments if relevant

- There were 905 patients who entered the open-label titration period, and 588 (65%) were randomized to the double blind phase of the trial
- This is also in line with the rates of success seen in previous trials with some form of enriched enrollment based on selecting drug responders in an open-label dose titration period