CLINICAL TIPS AND PEARLS
Clinical Tips and Pearls

• Cancer pain is common. About half of cancer patients suffer with cancer pain.

• Uncontrolled cancer pain severely impairs the quality of life of patients and their families.

• All types of pain (nociceptive, neuropathic, and mixed pain) are frequent in cancer patients which are similar to other pain syndromes.

• Thorough assessment is a prerequisite for effective management of cancer pain.

• Although clinical examination is the gold standard, assessment of cancer pain must be multi-dimensional and consider social and psychological aspects.

• Cancer pain diagnosis is essential to the planning of further pain treatment.
Clinical Tips and Pearls

• Management of cancer pain requires a multidisciplinary approach.
• Treatment of cancer pain is guided by the mechanisms responsible for the pain.
• The WHO analgesic ladder is still the gold standard for the management of cancer pain.
• Opioids are the mainstay for the management of cancer pain. Most cancer pain can be managed safely and effectively using combination therapies with opioids.
• Palliative care for cancer patients must be considered at the earliest stage.
• Non-pharmacological options need to be considered when treating cancer pain.
• There is no need for a cancer patient to suffer unnecessarily with pain.