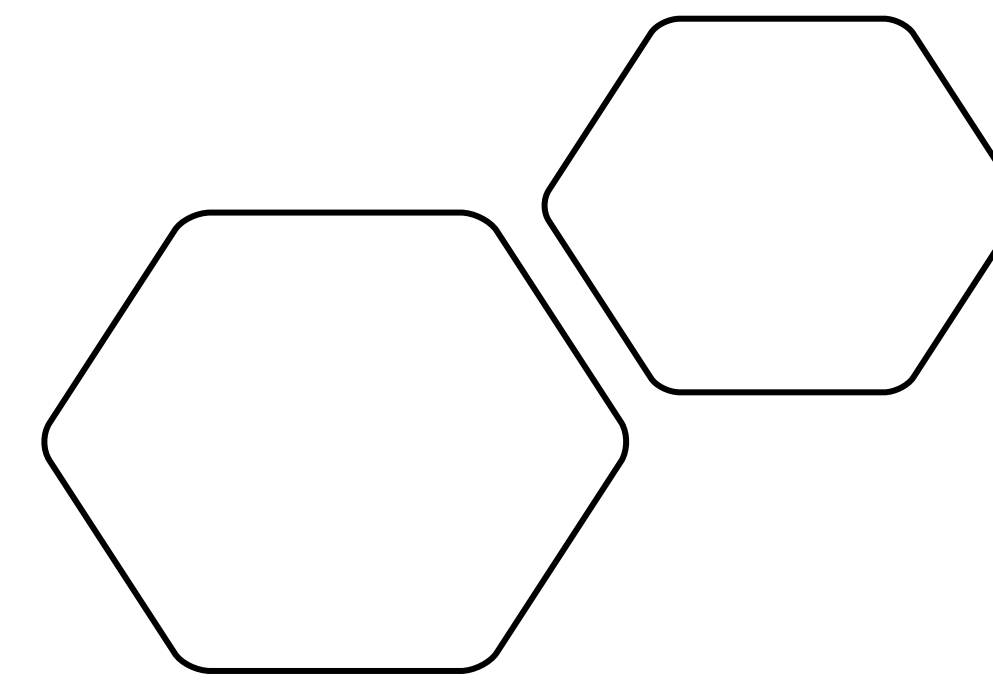




Labor analgesia in a patient with reported lidocaine allergy

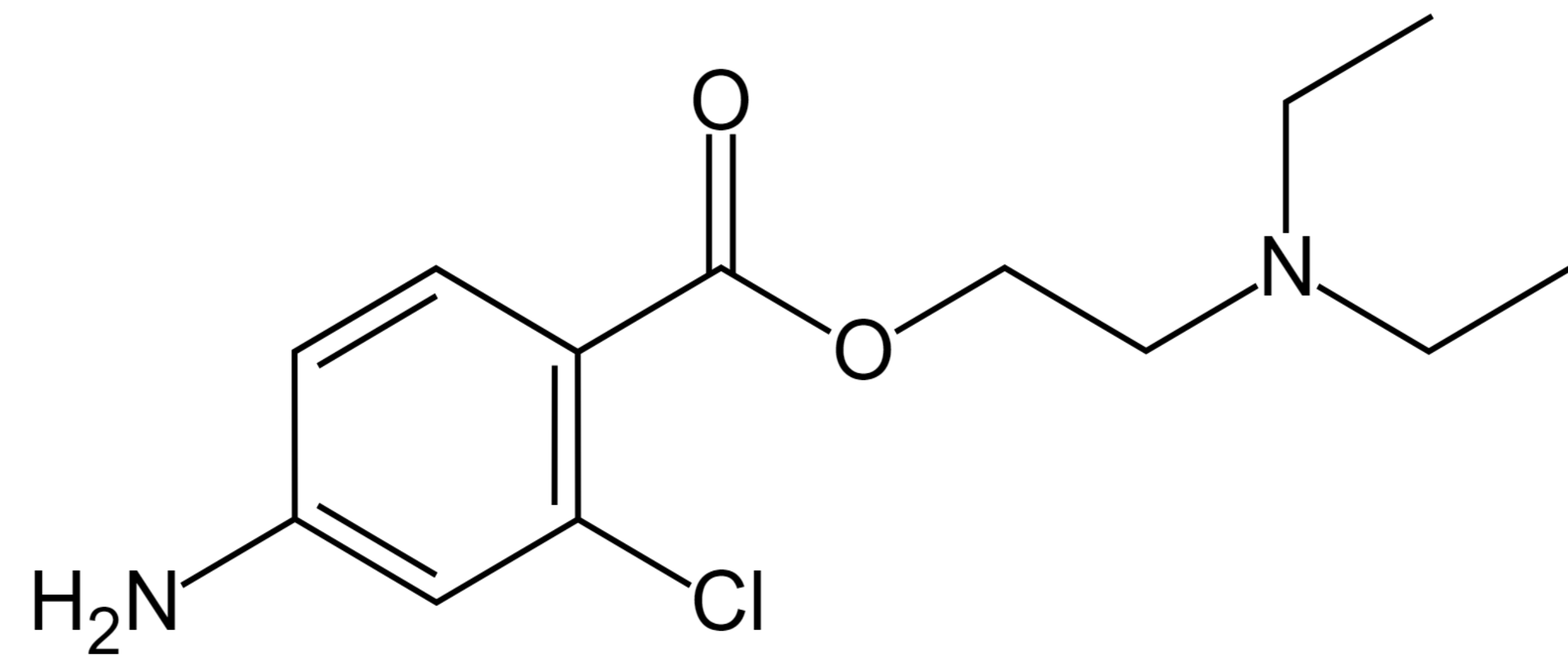
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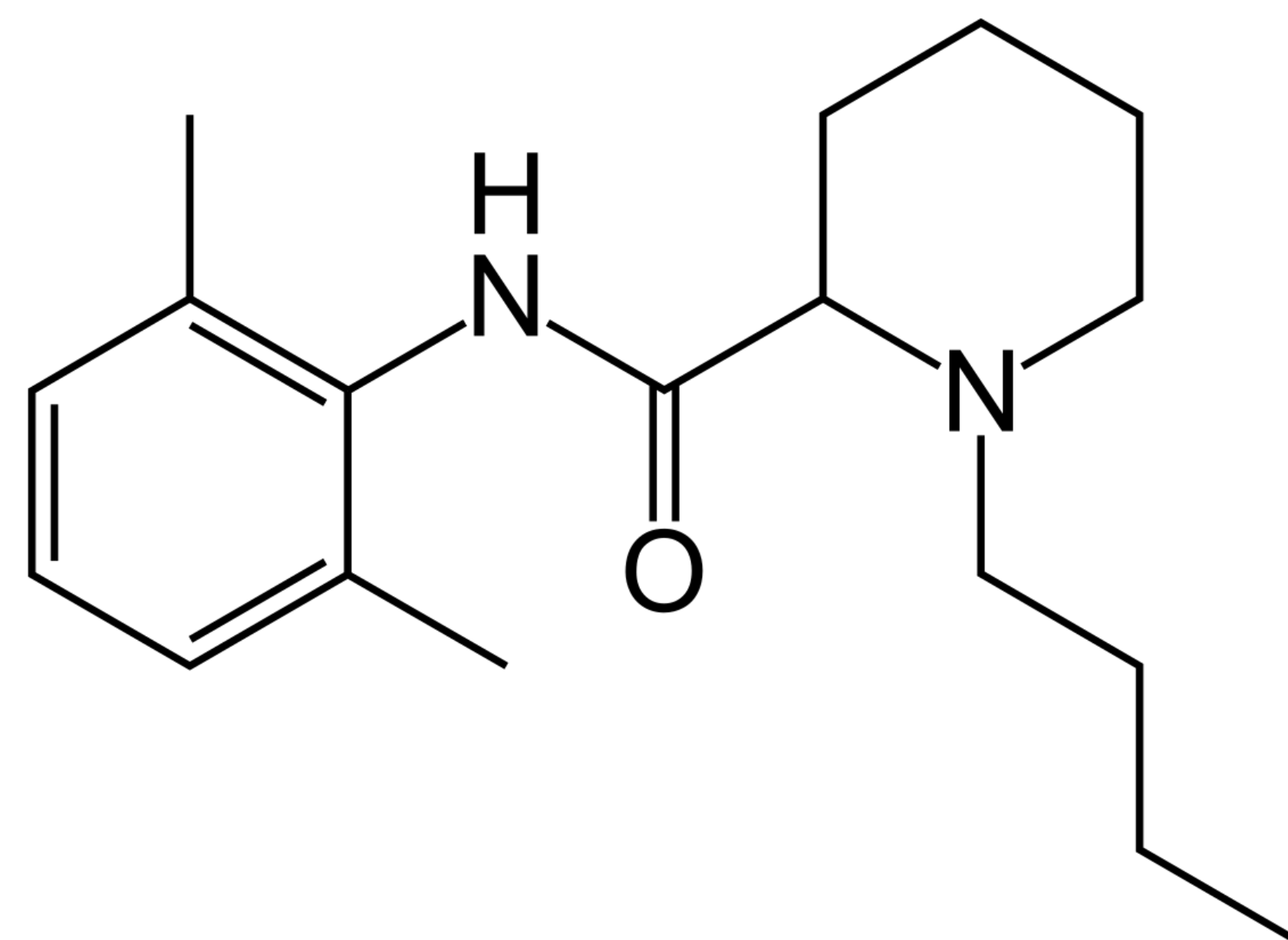
Case Report

- A 36 year old G₁P₀ at 40 weeks EGA presented for scheduled IOL. On chart review, it was noted that the patient had a documented lidocaine allergy. Per patient history, she experienced chills, rigors, and 'anxiety' following injection of lidocaine for dental procedures, with at least once instance necessitating rescheduling of the procedure.
- Of note, the patient had presented at 11 weeks EGA with acute appendicitis and underwent laparoscopic appendectomy. No local anesthetic was administered for the procedure and she was advised to see an allergist prior to delivery, however the patient declined allergy testing.
- The patient strongly desired epidural analgesia for her labor and was very anxious about any alternative options. Given the lack of previous allergy testing, the patient was counseled and offered chlorprocaine as an alternative to amide local anesthetics.
- The patient received a dural puncture epidural with chlorprocaine used to both anesthetize the skin and for initial bolusing. An infusion of chlorprocaine 0.3% with fentanyl 2 mcg/mL was started at 10 mL/hr. The infusion concentration and rate were titrated to patient comfort and appropriate level of analgesia, which eventually required increasing the chlorprocaine concentration to 0.6% and the rate to 14 mL/hr. The patient delivered via forceps-assisted vaginal delivery.
- Despite again being advised to follow up with an allergist, the patient has not done this to date.



Chloroprocaine

Discussion



Bupivacaine

- Non-allergic reactions to local anesthetics are far more common than true allergy, with psychomotor and vasovagal reactions being among those seen in the former category.
- Cross-reactivity within amide local anesthetics is common, however cross-reactivity between amide and ester groups is not generally observed. Given this, ester group local anesthetics offer a potentially suitable alternative to amides for epidural analgesia.
- Few case reports exist describing the use of chloroprocaine for labor epidural analgesia with the concentration utilized varying to a high degree. Our patient reported adequate analgesia following titration of concentration up to 0.6%.
- Epidural chloroprocaine labor analgesia may offer a safe and effective alternative in the parturient presenting with reported amide local anesthetic allergy in the absence of allergy testing.