

# Port site pain and numbness

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Pain in one or other of the port site wounds is not uncommon and is worse if there is haematoma formation. It usually settles very rapidly . In the case of thoracoscopy , intercostal nerve pain may be more common in those with smaller intercostal spaces. Nerve blockade by means of directed local anaesthesia is e ff ective at reducing pain and the need for opiate medication in the immediate postoperative period. Increasing pain after 2–3 days may be a sign of infection and, with concomitant signs, antibiotic therapy is occasionally required. Occasionally , herniation through a port may account for localised pain and should be considered, particularly if occurring late with a relevant preceding history (e.g. coughing). Failure of a patient to follow the expected recovery pathway should prompt senior review with appropriate imaging and relook surgery if consid ered necessary . Port site pain and numbness

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