this approach, anesthetic is applied to a sphenopalatine ganglion (SPG) of a patient by a trained medical professional, who typically inserts a cotton-tipped applicator soaked in the anesthetic into the nostril of a patient in order to apply the anesthetic to the SPG. Using the middle turbinate as an anatomical landmark, the soaked cotton-tipped applicators are pushed upwards in what is essentially a blind advance (the success of which depends very heavily on the skill and experience of the physician). Clearly, the efficacy and safety of this procedure leave much to be desired. Moreover, the efficacy and safety of conventional SPG blocks have been significantly compromised by a long-held but mistaken belief amongst clinicians that the SPG is located posterior to the superior turbinate— which it is not.

[0005] In short, there is a pressing need amongst patients and clinicians for safer and more effective methods and devices for achieving an SPG block— particularly ones that can be employed directly by a patient without the assistance or supervision of a trained medical professional.

SUMMARY

[0006] The scope of the present ~~invention~~disclosure is defined solely by the appended claims, and is not affected to any degree by the statements within this summary.

[0007] A device for delivering a medicament to a patient in need thereof includes: (a) an injector including a first end configured to remain outside a nasal passage of the patient and a second end configured for entry into the nasal passage of the patient, wherein the injector is moveable between a storage position and an engaging position; and (b) an introducer configured for engagement with a nostril of the patient, wherein the introducer includes a passageway configured for slidably receiving the injector, and wherein the introducer includes a curvature along a portion thereof adjacent to the passageway.

[0007a] In one aspect, there is provided a device for delivering a medicament to a patient in need thereof comprising:

an injector comprising a first end configured to remain outside a nasal passage of the patient and a second end configured for entry into the nasal passage of the patient, wherein the injector is moveable between a storage position and an engaging position;

an introducer configured for engagement with a nostril of the patient, wherein the introducer comprises a passageway configured for slidably receiving the injector, and wherein the introducer comprises a curvature along a portion thereof adjacent to the passageway;

a housing, wherein a first end of the housing is configured to remain outside a nasal passage of the patient and wherein a second end of the housing comprises the introducer; and

wherein the device further comprises a hub coupled to the injector, wherein the hub is configured for connection to a syringe and remains outside the housing prior to the connection to the syringe and the hub enters the housing substantially irreversibly when pushed in an axial direction towards the introducer.

[0007b] In another aspect, there is provided a device for ameliorating pain in a patient comprising:

an injector of the device as defined above that is capable of being introduced through a nasal passage of the patient into a region substantially medial and/or posterior and/or inferior to a sphenopalatine ganglion of the patient;

an introducer of the device as defined above which comprises a passageway configured for slidably receiving the injector;

a housing of the device as defined above having a first end configured to remain outside a nasal passage of the patient and a second end comprising the introducer;

a hub of the device as defined above configured to remain outside the housing prior to connection to a syringe and is configured to enter the housing substantially irreversibly when pushed in an axial direction towards the introducer; and

a medicament capable of being delivered from the injector superiorly and/or laterally and/or anteriorly towards the sphenopalatine ganglion.

[0008] A method for ameliorating pain in a patient includes (a) introducing the injector of a device of a type described above through the nasal passage of the patient into a region substantially medial and/or posterior