

Evaluating the Efficacy of Medication-Assisted Treatment for First Episode Psychosis: A Scoping Review

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Purpose

The purpose of this project is to assess the efficacy of medication assisted treatment (MAT) in conjunction with antipsychotics compared to the use of antipsychotic monotherapy for individuals experiencing first episode psychosis (FEP) with comorbid substance use disorder (SUD) on hospital readmission rates

Aims

- Identify the prevalence of comorbid FEP and SUD
- Review the limited treatment options for these patients
- Provide evidence that encourages the development of FEP/SUD-specific treatment plans that include MAT

Background

- Individuals experiencing FEP and SUD are at an increased risk for repeat hospitalizations due to poor medication adherence, recurrent psychotic episodes, and risk for overdose.
- The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) recommends that individuals with SUD receive MAT, as a complete approach to substance use treatment (SAMHSA, 2019).
- The rate of SUD in a patient with psychosis is significantly higher than those with any other mental illness (Trudeau et al., 2018)
- In the United States, the prevalence of co-occurring FEP and SUD is between 13% and 44% (Cather, 2018, p. 303)

Methods

Scoping review utilizing PubMed, EBSCO, Elsevier, Google Scholar, PsychINFO, and Medline from August 2020 to November 2022 using key phrases and the following eligibility criteria:

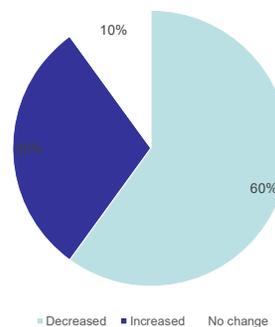
- Individual experiencing psychosis with co-occurring substance use
- Publication within past five years
- English or available in English translation
- Full text
- Institutional Review Board approved
- Peer reviewed

Data was gathered for the following five outcomes:

- Post treatment psychosis
- Compliance rate of MAT
- Return to use rate
- Improvement of psychotic symptoms
- Hospital readmission rates

Results

Hospital Readmission Rates with Combined Antipsychotic and MAT Therapy



Results

- The ten articles reviewed showed mixed results in hospital readmissions following combination therapy.
- Evidence showed an improvement of psychotic symptoms with combination therapy.
- MAT compliance slightly increased during the MAT programs.
- Psychosis post treatment decreased.
- Return to use rate of substances decreased.

Implications for Practice

- This scoping review highlights the current treatment of comorbid SUD and FEP with the use of MAT to potentially reduce hospital readmission rates.
- There was insufficient evidence to support targeted treatment regimens for our patient population; therefore, more research is needed in this area.

References

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