Self-reporting of medications in sexual assault patients across time

BACKGROUND

- A paucity of literature exists describing the self-reporting of medications used by sexual assault (SA) patients.
- Medication use prior to assault, one week after, and at six week follow-up were analyzed.

OBJECTIVES

- Provide descriptive data from an on-going NIH-funded study to examine the medications used by SA patients across time.

METHODS

- Secondary analysis of data collected from 6/2015 – 3/2017 as part of an on-going NIH-funded trial evaluating the mechanisms of chronic musculoskeletal pain following SA
- 13 emergency department & clinical-based SA programs across the U.S.
- Female survivors ≥18 who presented within 72 hours of assault, received a SANE exam, & who meet other inclusion criteria were eligible. Subjects completed a self-report assessment at time of exam & assessments at 1 week, 6 week, 6 month & 12 months.

RESULTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Classification</th>
<th>Prevalence prior to assault (%)</th>
<th>Prevalence 1 week post assault (%)</th>
<th>Prevalence 6 weeks post assault (%)</th>
<th>Prior / 1 week p value</th>
<th>Prior / 6 week p value</th>
<th>1 week / 6 week p value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>n = 344</td>
<td>n = 429</td>
<td>n = 277</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Over-the-counter (OTC)</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>0.123</td>
<td>0.001***</td>
<td>0.053*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Herbal</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.423</td>
<td>0.396</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prescription</td>
<td>31%</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>0.03*</td>
<td>0.0001***</td>
<td>0.0038**</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Benzodiazepines, opioids, muscle relaxants</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>0.687</td>
<td>0.474</td>
<td>0.712</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Psychotropic</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>0.012*</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.018*</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

LIMITATIONS

- Limitations include the self-reporting nature of this study, lack of validation of agents by conformational screening, limited follow-up & exclusion on non-English speaking patients.

CONCLUSIONS

- First multi-site comparison of medication use prior to & following SA.
- OTC medication use increased in the weeks following SA.
- Psychotropic agents significantly increased at 1 week and 6 weeks.
- Prescription medication use decreased at all time points, likely related to lack of follow-up.
- OTC medication use significantly changed from pre to post assault & significantly increased over time after assault.
- These results suggest that the medication needs of sexual assault survivors evolve in the subsequent weeks after an assault.

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