

DUAL DIAGNOSIS IN PATIENTS IN METHADONE MAINTENANCE PROGRAM, DEPENDING ON WHETHER THEY ARE OR NOT DRUG CONSUMPTION ROOM USERS

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Educational Objectives

At the conclusion of this presentation, the participants should be able to differentiate the presence of dual diagnosis in patients undergoing methadone maintenance (MMT), depending on if they are or not drug consumption room (DCR) users.

Purpose

In January 2012 a drug consumption room (DCR) opened in an outpatient treatment centre for alcoholism and drug abuse (CADA) to reach people who inject drugs (PWID) who did not seek treatment. The purpose was to evaluate the presence of dual diagnosis of 76 patients undergoing MMT during a year in this CADA.

Methods

A retrospective cross-sectional observational study was conducted by reviewing data collected from patients in MMT during 2015, performing a statistical comparison between DCR users and nonusers. The presence of a comorbid mental disorder was performed by the clinician according to the DSM-IV criteria.

Results

Of the 76 patients in MMT, more than a half were DCR users (Figure 1). Characteristics of the patients are described in Table 1. The presence of a comorbid disorder of all the patients in PMM was 21,05% in axis I and 18,42% in axis II, presenting only the 10% of DCR users a diagnosis in axis I and a 17,5% in axis II, compared to the DCR nonusers, who presented a diagnosis in axis I in the 33,3% of the cases and in axis II in the 19,4%.

Figure 1. PMM patients

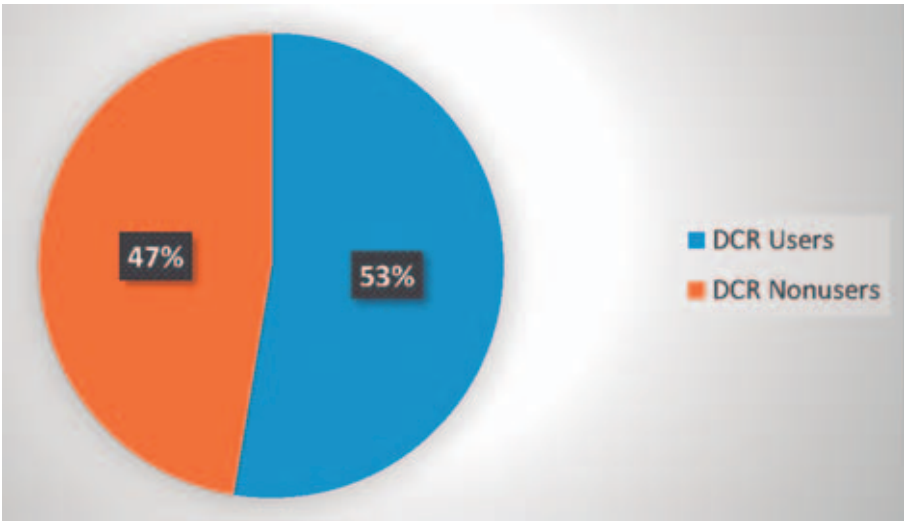


Table 1. Characteristics of patients in PMM

	DCR Users (n=40)	DCR Nonusers (n=36)
Sex	80%men 20% women	77,8% men 22,2% women
Age	36,4 (SD 7,78)	44 (SD 9,5)
Methadone mean dosage	47,02 (SD 26,7)	49,51 (SD 48,1)

Conclusions

- Considering the results, in our sample the presence of dual diagnosis in the DCR users in PMM is probably underdiagnosed, compared to the results obtained in other studies (Goodhew and cols, 2016).
- The project achieved its objective, getting to know the presence of dual diagnosis in these patients.
- The knowledge gained from the project made us think that DCR users in PMM tend to be more complicated patients to reach and that they perform less visits with the professionals.
- We have to pay more attention to these type of patients through the nurse, social, psychiatry and psychological care, performing in a better way the follow up and being more able to detect the presence of dual diagnosis.

Literature Reference

*Goodhew M, Salmon AM, Marel C, Mills KL, Jauncey M. Mental health among clients of the Sydney Medically Supervised Injecting Centre (MSIC). Harm Reduction Journal (2016) 13:29.