Characteristics of reviewed studies: Treatment settings for opioid detoxification

Comparisons Included in this Clinical Question

Inpatient Versus Outpatient

DAY2006 GOSSOP1986

WILSON1975

Characteristics of Included Studies

Methods	Participants	Outcomes	Interventions	Notes
DAY2006				
Study Type: RCT (randomised controlled trial) Blindness: No mention Duration (days): No information Followup: 6months Setting: UK	n= 71 Age: No information Sex: No information Diagnosis: 100% opiate dependence	Data Used Completion	Group 1 N= 37 Detoxification with inpatient Group 2 N= 34 Detoxification with outpatient	Study Quality 1+
GOSSOP1986				
Study Type: Non-randomised controlled trial Blindness: Open Duration (days): Mean 21 Setting: Drug-dependence clinic, UK Info on Screening Process: All participants voluntary patients asking to be withdrawn	 n= 60 Age: Mean 26 Sex: 45 males 15 females Diagnosis: 78% opiate dependence Notes: Primary dependence = heroin 78% Methadone dependence:18% Codeine/dihydrocodeine: 3% 31 intravenous users, 17 smoked heroin, 12 oral users, 39 used 'other' non-opiate drugs Baseline: Age at first use of opiates: mean 20.7 years Age at which addiction began: 22.5 years Mean use of illicit heroin: 0.25-0.5 g 	Data Used Urinalysis Notes: Results did not describe sub-divisions of those who expressed a preference for inpatient or outpatient treatment compared to those who had no preference. The analysis simply compares inpatient with outpatient treatment	 Group 1 N= 20 Opiate agonist: methadone with inpatient - Those in the inpatient group underwent withdrawal with oral methadone over a period of 21 days. The dose of methadone was reduced daily using a linear (equal dose) reduction model Group 2 N= 40 Opiate agonist: methadone with outpatient - Patients received an equal dose of methadone as those in the inpatient group. This was reduced on a daily basis using a linear (equal dose) reduction model. Weekly attendance at clinic entailed counselling and support by psychiatrist 	Study quality 1+
WILSON1975 Study Type: RCT (randomised controlled trial) Type of Analysis: Per protocol Blindness: Open Duration (days): Mean 10 Setting: US, inpatient versus outpatient detoxification Info on Screening Process: Numbers randomised and numbers who refused treatment not known. 40 included in analysis	n= 40 Age: Mean 22 Sex: Diagnosis: 100% opiate dependence Exclusions: - no evidence of physical dependence - no evidence of current drug use through urinalysis, or clinical evidence of withdrawal Notes: Participants 'tended to be' white, single and male Baseline: 'Most' had abused alcohol, barbiturates, amphetamines and hallucinogens as well as heroin First detoxification attempt: almost 75%	Data Used Urinalysis Opiate use Completion Retention: duration in treatment	 Group 1 N= 10 Opiate agonist: methadone with inpatient - In an open acute psychiatric ward, followed 'usual narcotic detoxification procedure' with the single limitation that methadone dose <40 mg in any 24-hour period Group 2 N= 30 Opiate agonist: methadone with outpatient - Supervised dose daily for 10 days (divided dose for first 3 days). Initial dose 10-20mg, stabilising at max 40mg on day 2 or 3. Dosage individualised but no more than 30mg was administered on days 4 or 5, 20mg on days 6 or 7, and 10mg on days 8, 9 or 10 	All participants were offered individual counselling, invited for follow-up and provided supportive medication as indicated Study quality 1+

References of Included Studies

DAY2006 (Unpublished Data Only)

Day, E. (2006) Outpatient versus inpatient opioid detoxification: The OPIOiD study.

GOSSOP1986 (Published Data Only)

Gossop, M., Johns, A. & Green, L. (1986) Opiate withdrawal: inpatient versus outpatient programmes and preferred versus random assignment to treatment. British Medical Journal Clinical Research Edition, 293, 103-104.

WILSON1975 (Published Data Only)

Wilson, B.K., Elms, R.R. & Thomson, C.P. (1975) Outpatient versus hospital methadone detoxification: an experimental comparison. International Journal of the Addictions, 10, 13-21.

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