HNE Health staff completed a cross-sectional study exploring the use of synthetic cannabis by people admitted to a HNE acute adult mental health unit specializing in comborbid mental health and substance use. These substances have since been banned from retail outlets, but the pattern of uptake and reasons people use them is informative in terms of motivations and the management of substance use more generally. Associations with diagnostic, service use, and demographic profiles were explored. Fifty-six percent of people reported having used at least one type of new psychoactive substance, including 53.5% who reported using synthetic cannabis alone, and 18.8% who reported using both synthetic cannabis and other new psychoactive substances. Synthetic cannabis use was not associated with any demographic or diagnostic groups. Legality and availability (43% combined) were common reasons for use, along with the feeling of intoxication (20%). The high prevalence of new psychoactive substance use adds weight to the recommendation that clinicians should routinely screen for substances from the time of admission. Accurate information about these substances is required in order to provide accurate guidance and appropriate interventions to people in their care.


SYNTHETIC CANNABINOID USE IN AN ACUTE PSYCHIATRIC INPATIENT UNIT

IMPROVING HOSPITAL-BASED END OF LIFE CARE PROCESSES AND OUTCOMES: A SYSTEMATIC REVIEW OF RESEARCH OUTPUT, QUALITY AND EFFECTIVENESS

As in other areas of health delivery, there is a need to ensure that end-of-life care is guided by patient centred research. A systematic review was undertaken to examine the quality and quantity of data-based research aimed at improving the (a) processes and (b) outcomes associated with delivering end-of-life care in hospital settings. A total of 416 papers met eligibility criteria. The number increased by 13% each year. Most studies (85%) were descriptive, with fewer measurement and intervention studies. Only 38 intervention studies met EPOC (Effective Practice and Organisation of Care) methodological criteria for research design. Most reported benefits for end-of-life processes including end-of-life discussions and documentation. Impact on end-of-life outcomes was mixed, with some benefit for psychosocial distress, satisfaction and concordance in care. More methodologically robust studies are needed to evaluate the impact of interventions on end-of-life processes, including whether changes in processes translate to improved end-of-life outcomes. Interventions which target both the patient and substitute decision maker in an effort to achieve these changes would be beneficial.

HNE Health Libraries can...
- Offer beginner to advanced sessions to access information resources
- Provide remote, individual or group based database training
- Participate on research and quality teams
- Support Journal Clubs
- Assist with ‘Finding the Evidence’ tutorials and workshops

HOSPITALISED ASSAULT INJURIES AMONG WOMEN & GIRLS

This AIHW factsheet examines cases of hospitalised assault against women in 2013-14. Rates of assault among women were highest for those aged between 15-19 and 50-54. Over half of all these women were assaulted by bodily force, and for assaults by bodily force and involving sharp and blunt objects, the majority of injuries were to the head and neck. Where information about the perpetrator was available, a spouse or domestic partner was the most commonly reported perpetrator.

NEW AUDIO DIGEST PSYCHIATRY CDs

Audio-Digest Foundation

Update on emergency psychiatry 46(6) 2017
Helping mentally ill victims of violent crime / Emergency tools and resources for preventing suicide / Psychiatric advance directives

Update on assessment of violence risk 46(6) 2017
Assessment instruments / violence and psychosis or mania / homosexual panic / childhood antecedents / predatory vs affective aggression / assessing threats / violence prevention plans

Inpatient and outpatient issues 46(7) 2017
Civil commitment: an overview / history / legal bases of civil commitment / landmark cases / civil commitment procedures / case discussion

Partial hospitalization programs: overview / program structure and function / research findings / challenges and future directions

Articles listed in the newsletter aren’t necessarily available FREE. We’re just letting you know what’s available!
If you’ve searched eJournals and eBooks on the HNE Health Libraries’ website and can’t find the article, contact your local HNE Health Library for further assistance. (Contact details are on page 4.)
HNE Health Libraries will be able to supply most articles—but there may be charges.


Coates, D. et al. (2017) "Being in a group with others who have mental illness makes all the difference": The views and experiences of parents who attended a mental health parenting program. Children and youth services review, 78, 104-111
Barber, S. et al. (2017) Clozapine combined with different antipsychotic drugs for treatment-resistant schizophrenia. Cochrane database of systematic reviews, issue 3
Völlm, B. et al. (2017) How best to engage users of forensic services in research: literature review and recommendations. International journal of forensic mental health, 16(2), 183-195
Cristea, I. et al. (2017) Efficacy of psychotherapies for borderline personality disorder: a systematic review and analysis. JAMA psychiatry, 74(4), 319-328
REAL-TIME IN VIVO RECTAL WALL DOSEMISTRY USING MOSKIN DETECTORS DURING LINAC BASED STEREOTACTIC RADIOTHERAPY WITH RECTAL DISPLACEMENT

MOSFET dosimetry is a method that has been used to measure in-vivo doses during brachytherapy treatments and during linac based radiotherapy treatment. Rectal displacement devices (RDDs) allow for safe dose escalation for prostate cancer treatment. This study used dual MOSFET detectors to assess real-time in vivo rectal wall dose in patients with an RDD in place during a high dose prostate stereotactic body radiotherapy (SBRT) boost trial.

MOSFET detectors were an effective tool for measuring dose delivered to the anterior rectal wall in real time during prostate SBRT boost treatments for the purpose of both ensuring the rectal doses remain within acceptable limits during the treatment and for the verification of final rectal doses.


BIOMARKERS & ANASTOMOTIC LEAKAGE IN COLORECTAL SURGERY

This study identifies changes in C-reactive protein (CRP), white cell count (WCC) and procalcitonin (PCT) as potential markers of anastomotic leakage following colorectal surgery and in particular highlights CRP trajectory as extremely accurate in diagnosing anastomotic leakage requiring intervention. External validation should be sought before incorporating this into routine clinical practice, given the numbers in this study (n=97).


SCREENING FOR CELIAC DISEASE


CIRCULATING MICROVESICLE NUMBER, FUNCTION AND SMALL RNA CONTENT VARY WITH AGE, GENDER, SMOKING STATUS, LIPID AND HORMONE PROFILES

The influence of age, gender, smoking, lipid and hormone profiles on circulating MV in 143 healthy adults was evaluated. The levels, function and small RNA content of MV was assessed by optical and functional assays. Those ≤ 29 years and ≥ 60 years had higher levels of MV by flow cytometry when compared to those between 30–59 years of age. MV level and function were also influenced by gender, smoking status, lipid and hormone profile.


HAEMATOLOGY DEPT, CMM PATHOLOGY NORTH-HUNTER HUNTER CANCER RESEARCH ALLIANCE

OVARIAN RESERVE AFTER SALPINGECTOMY

This meta-analysis investigates the possible damaging effect of salpingectomy on ovarian reserve. The results confirmed the short-term safety of salpingectomy with no effect on circulating anti-Mullerian hormone, which is the main marker of ovarian reserve.


TREATING PROLONGED GRIEF DISORDER

 Exposure therapy in the course of CBT leads to greater reduction in symptoms of prolonged grief disorder (PGD) than CBT without exposure, and this additive gain extends 2 years after treatment is complete. To achieve optimal treatment gains in patients with PGD, therapists should encourage some form of exposure therapy to memories of the death.


ORAL & TOPICAL ANTIBIOTICS FOR CLINICALLY INFECTED ECZEMA IN CHILDREN

Eczema may flare because of bacterial infection, but evidence supporting antibiotic treatment is of low quality. In this UK study, 113 children with clinically, non-severely infected eczema were randomized to receive oral and topical placebos (control), oral antibiotic (fluocoxacinil) and topical placebo, or topical antibiotic (fusidic acid) and oral placebo, for 1 week. The authors found rapid resolution in response to topical steroid and emollient treatment and ruled out a clinically meaningful benefit from the addition of either oral or topical antibiotics.


CONTACT NHMRC Health Libraries to access this article

NURSING STAFF FACTORS CONTRIBUTING TO SECLUSION IN ACUTE MENTAL HEALTH CARE

Seclusion is a controversial intervention. Efficacy with regard to aggressive behaviour has not been demonstrated, and seclusion is only justified for preventing safety hazards. Previous studies indicate that nursing staff factors may be predictors for seclusion, although methodological issues may have led to equivocal results. This prospective cohort study of the association between nurses’ demographics and nursing staff factors may be predictors for seclusion, although methodological issues may have led to equivocal results. This prospective cohort study of the association between nurses’ demographics and
HNE HEALTH LIBRARIES CAN ASSIST YOU IN YOUR RESEARCH & PRACTICE

For those undertaking an innovation scholarship project, developing a guideline, undertaking a systematic review or meta-analysis, or for higher degree students, Librarians can support you or your team in the following ways:

- Develop and refine review topics
- Identify existing systematic reviews on a topic
- Recommend appropriate databases
- Review existing search strategies
- Develop search strategies for each database
- Execute searches across multiple databases
- Document search strategies
- De-duplicate and provide citations in Endnote
- Assist with locating full-text articles
- Provide a narrative of the search methodology
- Update searches as required

Feel free to visit a HNE Health Library branch to discuss your projects and learn more about the ways in which we can assist you in your research and practice. Or take a look at this quick overview.

THINK—CHECK—SUBMIT

THINK – Are you submitting your research to a trusted journal? Is it the right journal for your work?

CHECK – Use the checklist to assess the journal

SUBMIT – Only if you can answer ‘yes’ to the questions on the checklist

Think. Check. Submit. is a campaign to help researchers make informed decisions about where to publish their work. It is a simple checklist to assess the credentials of a journal or publisher – so researchers can identify which journals in their discipline are trustworthy, and will help their research have the maximum impact on their career. The campaign has been produced with the support of a coalition from across scholarly communications in response to discussions about deceptive publishing.

PREDATORY JOURNALS RECRUIT FAKE EDITORS

OLLIE is in many ways a typical dog. She likes going for walks and is especially fond of having her tummy rubbed. But in one respect, the Staffordshire Terrier differs radically from her canine peers: she has a burgeoning academic career, and sits on the editorial boards of seven medical journals. As you may have guessed, the journals on whose boards Ollie sits are of the predatory variety - online publications that mimic legitimate journals, but are prepared to publish anything in exchange for a fee that can run into thousands of dollars. They prey on desperate young researchers under huge pressure to get their research published to further their careers.

OLLIE’s owner is Mike Daube, Professor of Health Policy at Curtin University in Perth. Mike gets a lot of emails from predatory journals. Wondering just how low these journals would go, he put together a curriculum vitae for his dog Ollie to send it off to a number of these journals, asking for a spot on their editorial boards. Remarkably, the vast majority accepted Ollie without demur, and her name now adorns several journal websites.

Debate: A substantial peer workforce in a psychiatric service will improve patient outcomes

THE CASE FOR

This statement of opinion relates to an invited debate on the role of peer workers in psychiatric services during the RANZCP conference 2016. The views presented in this statement of opinion are those of the team for the affirmative.


THE CASE AGAINST

The aim of this work was to examine, via narrative review, the evidence supporting the drive for more peer workers to gauge the likely impact on patient outcomes.


SEE ALSO: A recent study published in Nature found that dozens of academic titles offered ‘Dr Fraud’ — a sham, unqualified scientist — a place on their editorial board.

Read more in MJA Insight

Read more…

UPDATE SEARCHES AS REQUIRED

Assist with locating full-text articles

- Develop search strategies for each database
- Review existing search strategies
- Recommend appropriate databases
- Document search strategies
- De-duplicate and provide citations in Endnote
- Assist with locating full-text articles
- Provide a narrative of the search methodology
- Update searches as required


