

Outpatient Urine Drug Testing at Initial Visit in a Supportive Care Clinic



MOFFITT
CANCER CENTER

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BACKGROUND

- Opioids are the cornerstone of cancer pain management
- Proper prescribing of controlled substances is essential to support patient wellbeing
- Research recommends use of urine drug testing (UDT) to assist clinicians in responsibly prescribing opioids when managing pain
- Guidelines do not indicate when UDT should be utilized in cancer care
- UDT is often limited to random testing or testing of cancer patients with suspected misuse

STUDY AIMS

- To investigate utility of UDT at 1st Supportive Care clinic visit by determining prevalence of abnormal results
- To examine relationship of demographic and clinical characteristics to presence of illicit drug use

METHODS

- Retrospective chart review of consecutive patients referred between December 2013 and September 2016

Eligibility Criteria

- Diagnosed with cancer
- 18 years of age or older
- Newly referred to an outpatient Supportive Care clinic
- Underwent UDT as part of their clinic visit
- Edmonton Symptom Assessment Scale (ESAS) – patient reported symptoms common in cancer patients
 - ESAS scores range from 0 to 10 with higher scores representing greater severity in symptoms

- UDT results and ESAS scores obtained through an existing clinical database and chart extraction

- Demographic and clinical characteristics were obtained through Collaborative Data Services

RESULTS

UDT Results

- 1108 patients underwent routine UDT
- Total number of drug and/or metabolites identified was 3,165

As a percent of total:	
Marijuana	19.9%
Cocaine	1.4%
Amphetamines	2.1%
Heroin	0.20%
Opioid prescribed/ not present	6.1%
Prescription drug/not prescribed	19.9%
Non-prescribed opioids	7.4%

Patient Characteristics

Demographic Characteristics		Medical Characteristics	
Mean age = 54 (range = 19-90)		Stage III-IV	54%
Female	59%	Disease	
White/Caucasian	82%	Gynecologic	15%
Non-Hispanic	88%	Lung	13%
Married	55%	Breast	11%
Single	23%	Treatment	
Insurance Status		Surgery	54%
Managed care	40%	Chemotherapy	72%
Medicaid	11%	Radiation	36%
Medicare	15%	Immunotherapy	14%
Not insured	4%	Hormone	17%
Self Pay	6%	ESAS	
Tricare	1%	Mean ESAS total score	35.2
Unknown	21%	Mean ESAS pain score	5.2
Veterans affairs	1%		

Associated Variables

- Relationship of demographic and clinical characteristics to presence of illicit drug use

Variables Associated with Presence of Illicit Drug		
Variable		p-value
Age	-0.18	< .0001
ESAS total score	0.13	0.00
ESAS pain score	0.09	0.04
Male gender	3.49	0.06
Single, not married	4.05	0.04

CONCLUSIONS

- Findings suggest use of UDT meets standards of medical necessity to be a credible element of clinical care
- High rate of irregularities in the results may support obtaining the test at initial visit to guide subsequent care