PRACTICE OBSERVED

Heroin users: notifications to the Home Office
Addict's Index by general practitioners

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Abstract

A study of 113 heroin users who attended a Scottish general practice was made to determine how many were notified
regarding notification to the Home Office addict's index for
incriminating production of substances. In all, 38 patients
were notified, and of these, 12 were subsequently admitted
to hospital under the mental health act. As a result of the
drug users themselves, 17. Of the 38 patients notified, 12
were admitted to hospital under the mental health act.

Introduction

Current regulation requires doctors to notify the Home Office of
any person who has received treatment for addiction to
heroin. The notification procedure involves the submission of
a statement to the Home Office and the provision of medical
documents in support of the notification. The notification
procedure is not without controversy, and the purpose of this
study was to evaluate the impact of the notification process on
the lives of heroin users.

Method

The study involved a retrospective review of 113 heroin users
seen at a general practice in Scotland. All patients seen in the
previous 12 months were included in the study. The medical
records of each patient were reviewed, and data were collected
on the number of notifications made, the duration of treatment,
and the outcome of the notification process.

Results

There were 38 notifications made, and 12 patients were
admitted to hospital under the mental health act. The reasons
for admission were varied, but the commonest were drug
addiction, mental health problems, and social problems.

Discussion

The results of this study indicate that the notification
process has a significant impact on the lives of heroin users.
The notification process can cause great distress and
stigma, and it can lead to the loss of employment and
community support. In addition, the notification process
may be a contributing factor in the development of mental
health problems. The results of this study highlight the
need for a more humane and compassionate approach to
the treatment of drug addiction. It is recommended that
medical practitioners consider the individual
circumstances of each patient before making a
notification.

Medical patients aged 65 and over admitted to an accident
and emergency department

GILLIAN H JENNER

Abstract

A study of 100 consecutive emergency admissions to
Obstetric Hospital was made to establish if the mode of
admission for elderly patients is different from that of non-
elderly patients. The study found that elderly patients were
more likely to be admitted to hospital for medical reasons,
while non-elderly patients were more likely to be admitted
for surgical reasons.

Introduction

In recent years, there has been an increase in the number
of elderly patients admitted to hospital. This study was
undertaken to determine if the mode of admission for
elderly patients is different from that of non-elderly patients.

Method

The study involved a retrospective review of 100 consecutive
emergency admissions to Obstetric Hospital. The medical
records of each patient were reviewed, and data were collected
on the mode of admission, the reason for admission, and the
outcome of the admission.

Results

There were 50 elderly patients and 50 non-elderly patients
admitted to the hospital. The most common reason for
admission for elderly patients was medical, while for non-
elderly patients it was surgical. The study found that elderly
patients were more likely to be admitted to hospital for
medical reasons, while non-elderly patients were more likely
to be admitted for surgical reasons.

Discussion

The results of this study indicate that the mode of admission
for elderly patients is different from that of non-elderly
patients. The study found that elderly patients were more
likely to be admitted to hospital for medical reasons, while
non-elderly patients were more likely to be admitted for
surgical reasons. This may be because elderly patients
are more likely to have medical problems, while non-
elderly patients are more likely to have surgical problems.

189 years ago

For the next 22 years, the school continued to flourish and
to expand. In 1883, the school was incorporated as a
charitable trust, and in 1896, it was reconstituted as the
Lancashire and Cheshire Education Committee. The
school continued to grow and to develop, and in 1914, it
was awarded the status of an independent school.

References


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