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Implementation of hospital misuse protocol: A pilot study

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Introduction: Misuse of prescribed and illicit substances poses a challenge for patient outcomes and provider attitudes in general hospital settings. Little is known regarding the effects of hospital interventions to reduce risk. Providers at VUMC created a Hospital Misuse Protocol to optimize outcomes for patients and providers. **Objective:** We sought to evaluate the effect of hospital misuse protocol implementation on relevant patient outcomes including AMA discharges, rehospitalization, medications-for-opioid use disorder (MOUD) initiation, as well as its impact on provider attitudes. **Methods:** A manual retrospective chart review was completed for misuse protocol patients. Survey data regarding provider attitudes surrounding initiation of the misuse protocol pilot was also collected and analyzed. **Results:** Preliminary analysis of 41 patients enrolled in the protocol found that 65% stayed through planned discharge compared to 89% of all patients with an addiction psychiatry consult. Additional early findings indicate decreased rates of MOUD follow up and naloxone prescription in patients leaving AMA. Provider attitude surveys demonstrate an increase in feelings of support and perceived access to resources. **Conclusions:** With data collection ongoing, we present preliminary findings suggesting feasibility of implementation of a general hospital misuse protocol as well as acceptability by a multidisciplinary group of hospital providers.