

TITLE: Changes in opioid prescribing habits after a multi-disciplinary journal club and consensus building techniques

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STUDENT SUBMISSION: No

TOPIC/TARGET AUDIENCE: Medical Practitioners; Physicians; Opioid legislators & Policy analysts; County-level Public Health Practitioners

ABSTRACT: Background: Approximately, 700,000 Americans die from a drug overdose annually commonly due to an overdose of prescription opioids. Orthopedic providers frequently prescribe opioids following injury and surgery. Little is known on the impact of brief educational interventions on physician opioid prescribing behavior. Purpose: To describe the impact of a single practice-wide provider education event on opioid prescribing habitats at an orthopedic clinic. Methods: One single-night, multidisciplinary event focused on opioid prescribing best practices was held in October 2018 resulting in consensus to reduce the amount and duration of opioid use. A retrospective chart review will be conducted to abstract prescription data housed in the orthopedic practice's electronic health records (EHR) for one year prior and six months following a brief intervention. Total morphine equivalents (MEQs) will be calculated by orthopedic subspecialty. Quality control charts will be constructed to evaluate trends in MEQ volume over time, utilizing four tests for determining special versus common-cause variation. Expected Results: Quality control charts will demonstrate a significant decline in total MEQ's across orthopedic subspecialties, and the decline will be sustained for six-months following the intervention.

OBJECTIVE(S): Analyze the effect of a single-brief intervention on opioid prescribing volumes within a single orthopedic practice. Demonstrate and discuss the use of quality control charts for monitoring the impact of interventions over time.
