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Grace Gu MD
HCA Healthcare

Albert Cheng MD
HCA Healthcare

Darren Rahaman MD

Shyh-Jeun Wang MD

Maureen Strohm MD
HCA Healthcare

See next page for additional authors

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Authors
Grace Gu MD, Albert Cheng MD, Darren Rahaman MD, Shyh-Jeun Wang MD, Maureen Strohm MD, and Napatkamon Ayutanont

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**A Comparison of Opioid Abuse Screening Tools for Detection of High Risk Patients in the Inpatient Setting**

Grace Gu, MD, Albert Cheng, MD, Darren Rahaman, MD, Shyh-Jeun Wang, MD | HCA

### Introduction

- The United States is currently experiencing an opioid epidemic, which claims 115 lives daily by overdose.
- Tools for identifying patient at increased risk for abuse: Screener and Opioid Assessment for Patients with Pain (SOAPP-R) and Opioid Risk Tool (ORT).
- However, there lacks studies which compare the two most commonly used opioid screen tools (SOAPP-R and ORT).
- We hope to compare the effectiveness of these screening tools for patients being discharged from hospital who have no "red flags" for abuse.

### Background

- The awareness of opioid abuse/overdose for those at-risk patients is at all time high amongst providers.
- General medicine patient being discharged with an opioid prescription is mandated to complete ORT to assess their risk for potential abuse (Nevada law).
- ORT is a 10 question screening tool placing patient into three categories: low, moderate or high risk.
- SOAPP-R consists of 24 questions: low, moderate or high risk.
- We want to know which tool helps providers identify those who do not have obvious "red-flags" but are at increased risk for abuse.

### Methods

- Identified eligible patients being discharged from the hospital with new opioid prescriptions.
- Those who consented to participate filled out both SOAPP-R and ORT with the researcher’s assistance.
- SOAPP-R and ORT were scored for each patient.
- Based on the score of each screening tool, patients were divided into low, moderate or high risk.
- PMP was checked for each patient and it was used as a gold standard for identifying high risk patients.
- PMP positive: 4 or more providers AND 4 or more prescriptions within the last 12 months.

### Results

#### Preliminary results:

- 56 patients provided consent and enrolled in the study.
- SOAPP-R
  - Low risk: 37 (66.1%); moderate risk: 15 (26.8%); High risk: 4 (7.1%)
- ORT
  - Low Risk:49 (80.4%); Moderate risk: 5 (8.9%); High risk: 2 (3.6%).
- PMP
  - High risk: 5 patients (8.9%). Characteristics shown below
- ORT had 2 counts of mislabeling patients, however not statistically significant.

#### Characteristics of PMP Positive Patients

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sex</th>
<th>Females, 2 Males</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Age</td>
<td>50-75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ORT score</td>
<td>Low to Moderate Risk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOAPP-R score</td>
<td>Low to Moderate Risk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MME</td>
<td>758-1355</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># of prescriptions</td>
<td>4-6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Conclusion

- Both SOAPP-R and ORT missed some patients at increased risk of opioid abuse who did not have "red flags."
- SOAPP-R had 4 counts of mislabeling low risk patients as high risk.
- A larger sample size may shed more light on the effectiveness of these two screening tools.

### References