

Disparities in Preventive Healthcare Among Women in Treatment for Opioid Use Disorder

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I. Introduction

- Opioid use among women is increasing, evidenced by a 642% increase in opioid-related deaths since 1999.¹
- Preventive women's healthcare measures, such as mammograms and PAP tests, may be performed at a lower rate among females with substance use disorders.
- To improve outcomes for patients with opioid use disorder, the University of Utah developed a transition clinic, SPARC, as part of the Sugar House Health Center (SHHC).
- We compared mammogram and PAP test rates between women receiving buprenorphine treatment for opioid use disorder with a comparable sample of women not being treated for opioid use disorder at the SHHC.

II. Methods

Project Design

- A retrospective data analysis examined the rates of mammograms and PAP tests among women receiving buprenorphine treatment for opioid use disorder at the SHCC and compared this with the general population of women at the same clinic

Inclusion criteria

- Assigned female at birth
- Prescribed buprenorphine/naltrexone for opioid use disorder
- Active script for buprenorphine/naltrexone or buprenorphine

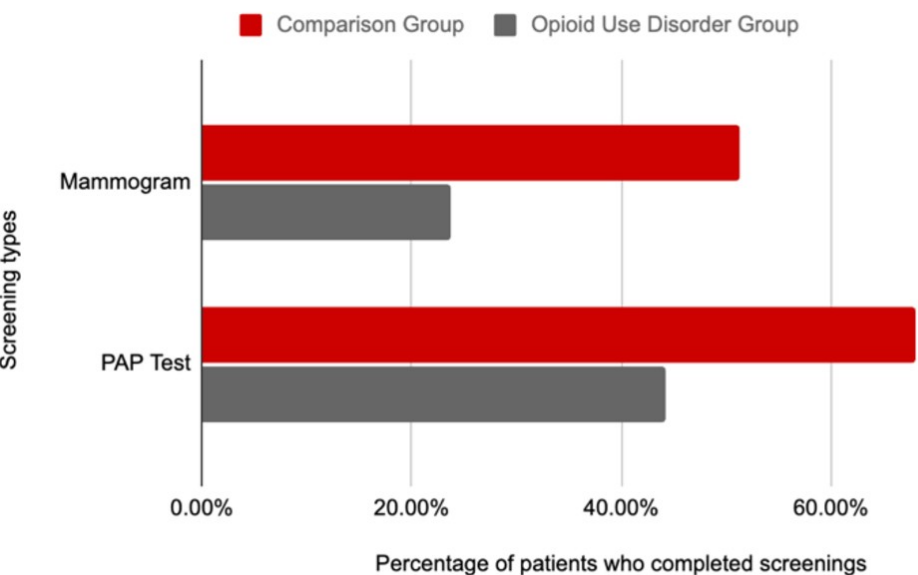
Statistical Analysis

- The outcomes of interest were PAP test completion and mammogram completion.
- These two screening rates were compared between the opioid use disorder treatment group and general population group using percentages and odds ratios.
- Chi square was used to determine statistical significance.

Table 1. Patient population who qualified for mammogram and/or PAP test breakdown by gender, age, and race.

Demographics	n	%	Demographics	n	%
Gender			Race		
Female	6215	95.51	Asian/Asian American	365	5.61
Other	292	4.49	Hispanic/Latino/a/x	362	5.56
Age			White/Caucasian	5037	77.41
<= 29	1178	18.10	Black/African American	93	1.43
30-39	1501	23.07	Native American/Alaskan Native	40	0.61
40-49	1236	18.99	Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	27	0.41
50-64	1555	23.90	Middle Eastern/ North African	34	0.52
65+	1036	15.92	Multi-Race	184	2.83
other	1	.02	Unidentified	365	5.61

Figure 1. Rates of completed mammograms and PAP tests in PAP test OUD groups and comparison groups.



IV. Conclusion

The results of our study confirm that women being treated for opioid use disorder complete mammograms and PAP tests at a significantly lower rate than the general population. Further study is needed to assess possible causes and solutions for this disparity.

Potential tools to increase screening rates

- Cervical cancer screening with self-swab HPV testing²
- Mobile mammogram unit scheduled on same appointment days.³
- Offer childcare and other services for convenience and security during sensitive exams.⁴
- Schedule appointments for buprenorphine management with other preventive procedures to maximize efficiency.

Utah Opioid Statistics



603

Utahns died as a result of drug overdose in 2021.

67%

of Utah overdose deaths were opioid related overdoses in 2021.

29%

of Utah overdose deaths were due to fentanyl related overdoses in 2021.

46

Utahns died from drug overdose on average each month in 2021.

III. Results

- The likelihood that women being treated for OUD had completed mammograms was 71% lower than the general clinic population.
- The likelihood that women being treated for OUD had completed PAP tests was 65% less than the general clinic population.

V. References



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