complex interplay can inform mental health professionals, educators, and policymakers about the potential risks posed by pro-ana communities. It emphasizes the importance of preventive measures, media responsibility, and a nuanced approach to engaging with individuals influenced by the pro-ana subculture. Recognizing the multifaceted nature of anorexia within this community is crucial for developing effective interventions and support strategies for patients with anorexia who engage with the online pro-ana community.

The Harm in Euphoria: Exploring the Benefit of Harm Reduction Strategies in the Narrative of Rue Bennett From 'Euphoria'

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Aims. "Euphoria," an American television show portraying the lives of teenagers, centers around Rue Bennett, a seventeen-year-old biracial girl grappling with substance misuse and comorbid mental health conditions, including obsessive-compulsive disorder and bipolar disorder. Rue's risky behaviors in the series mirror real-life challenges faced by adolescents dealing with substance misuse. This study aims to explore harm reduction strategies that could benefit Rue, emphasizing the need for such approaches to improve safety in non-abstinent adolescents. By focusing on harm reduction rather than strict abstinence, the goal is to meet individuals where they are in their journey and foster sustainable positive change.
Methods. Employing a qualitative approach, this study conducted a thematic content analysis of relevant episodes from seasons 1 and 2 of "Euphoria." Additionally, a literature search was carried out using online databases, including PubMed, PsychINFO, and Google Scholar, to identify relevant literature on harm reduction strategies for adolescent opiate users from 2019 to 2024.
Results. The analysis uncovered multiple instances of Rue's risky behavior. Major themes included polydrug use, self-medication, overdose, association with dangerous individuals, self isolation and withdrawal management. Examining Rue's journey identified harm reduction strategies which could minimise her risk of harm, such as fentanyl test strips, Narcan, and psychoeducation in safer consumption practices, supported by existing literature.
Conclusion. Rue Bennett's character in "Euphoria" underscores the imperative need for harm reduction approaches in substance use interventions for adolescents. The study highlights the potential effectiveness of harm reduction strategies, including Narcan and psychoeducation in minimizing risks associated with opiate use. Rue's narrative emphasizes how these methods could contribute to creating a safer consumption environment for non-abstinent individuals. Integrating harm reduction principles into real-world interventions is crucial for promoting holistic well-being and challenging stigmatizing attitudes toward substance use.

An Estimation of the Numbers of Patients Suitable for Lecanemab Treatment for Alzheimer's Pathology Within Mid and South Essex

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Aims. This paper sought to estimate the number of potential candidates per year, within the boundaries of the Mid and South Essex Integrated Care System, for the receipt of Lecanemab, a novel treatment of Alzheimer's pathology.
Methods. One of the four memory assessment services within the region was selected at random, following which all referrals to that service in January and February 2023 were retrieved from the electronic patient record system (n = 45). These records were then screened to assess whether the patient met the criteria for treatment with Lecanemab. The inclusion and exclusion criteria from the original CLARITY-AD phase 3 clinical trial (van Dyck et al., 2022) were combined with those of the Appropriate Use Recommendations released by the Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders Therapeutics Work Group (Cummings et al., 2023)[1,2]. Patients could not be identified as certainly suitable for treatment, but simply as potential candidates, as current practice does not include all the necessary investigations to receive the new drug, for example undergoing amyloid PET or CSF testing.
Results. 11 of 45 referrals were potential candidates for novel therapeutics (24.4%). Of the 11, 3 were diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease (27%), and 8 with Mild Cognitive Impairment (73%). 8 were male, 3 female, with a mean age of 78 years (range 70 to 87). The mean score on the Addenbrooke's Cognitive Examination III was 82/100. Two patients had co-morbid mental illness, both mixed anxiety and depression, currently in remission. Extrapolating from this rate of eligibility for treatment, it is suggested that approximately 260 patients per year would be eligible for Lecanemab treatment within Mid and South Essex.
Conclusion. This paper estimates that approximately 260 patients per year would be eligible for Lecanemab treatment within Mid and South Essex based on the inclusion and exclusion criteria stated above. This estimate is given with caution, particularly as neither amyloid PET nor CSF testing was performed, and it is still not clear what other stipulations may be made by the UK regulatory bodies (for example the degree of vascular pathology permitted on neuroimaging). This paper does however provide a useful, early estimate of eligibility in order to facilitate planning for potential treatment pathways.

CONNEX, a Phase III Randomized Trial Program Assessing Efficacy and Safety of Iclepertin in Schizophrenia: Recruitment and Baseline Characteristics

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Aims. Glutamatergic signalling deficits contribute to the neuropathology of cognitive symptoms in schizophrenia. Iclepertin (BI 425809), a glycine transporter-1 inhibitor, enhances *N*-methyl-D-aspartate receptor signalling in the brain by increasing synaptic levels of its co-agonist glycine. The Phase III CONNEX programme aims to assess the efficacy, safety and tolerability of iclepertin in improving cognition and functioning in schizophrenia.
Methods. CONNEX includes 3 randomised, double-blind, placebo-controlled parallel group trials in patients with schizophrenia from multiple centres across 41 countries in Asia, North and South America, Europe, and Asia Pacific Region (NCT04846868, NCT04846881, NCT04860830) receiving stable antipsychotic treatment. Each trial aims to recruit ~586 patients, 18–50 years old, treated with 1–2 antipsychotic medications (≥12 weeks on current drug; ≥35 days on current dose before treatment), who have functional impairment in day-to-day activities and interact ≥1 hour/week with a designated study partner. Patients with cognitive impairment due to developmental, neurological or other disorders, or receiving cognitive remediation therapy ≤12 weeks before screening will be excluded. Patients will be randomised 1:1 to once-daily oral iclepertin 10 mg (n = 293) or placebo (n = 293) for 26 weeks. Primary endpoint: change from baseline (CfB) in Measurement and Treatment Research to Improve Cognition in Schizophrenia Consensus Cognitive Battery (MCCB) overall composite T-score. Key secondary endpoints: CfB in Schizophrenia Cognition Rating Scale (SCoRS) total score and adjusted total time T-score in the Virtual Reality Functional Capacity Assessment Tool (VRFCAT).
Results. Trial completion is expected in Q1 2025. By 31/01/2024, there have been 811, 699 and 655 patients screened, 533, 474 and 458 randomised, and 320, 299 and 281 who have completed the trial medication for CONNEX-1, -2 and -3, respectively. Most patients are male (CONNEX-1: 69.3%, CONNEX-2: 69.0%, CONNEX-3: 63.3%) with similar age (mean [standard deviation; SD]) (CONNEX-1: 34.0 [8.9], CONNEX-2: 35.9 [8.4], CONNEX-3: 34.0 [8.8] years). For CONNEX-1, -2 and -3, mean (SD) duration of illness is 10.6 (8.3), 12.2 (7.9) and 9.6 (7.6) years and duration of previous schizophrenia treatment is 3.9 (4.6), 4.5 (4.9) and 3.3 (4.4) years. Baseline mean (SD) MCCB overall composite T-score (1: 28.4 [13.7], 2: 27.3 [13.8], 3: 29.7 [13.7]), SCoRS total score (1: 40.5 [11.1], 2: 39.9 [9.7], 3: 38.0 [10.0]) and VRFCAT adjusted total time T-score (1: 29.6 [22.3], 2: 30.7 [20.8], 3: 33.6 [18.1]) were similar across trials.
Conclusion. If successful, CONNEX will provide evidence for iclepertin as the first efficacious medication addressing cognitive impairments in schizophrenia.

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Evaluation of the TRANSFORM Pilot Training Program for Community Health Workers and Traditional and Faith-Based Healers in Bangladesh

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Aims. In the densely populated Korail slum of Bangladesh, there is a critical gap in mental health care provision and utilization that was revealed in our ethnographic study. We observed the pivotal role of Community Health Workers (CHWs), Medicine Sellers, and Traditional and Faith-Based Healers (TFHs) in the existing health care service delivery. Moreover, we explored the opportunity to collaborate with them to ensure universal access to biomedical care for serious mental disorders in this slum. As a part of this collaborative approach, we aimed to train these 4 key stakeholders through co-designed training programs that were codeveloped through extensive community engagement including 5 co-designing workshops and 2 writing workshops with them. Furthermore, we refined the initial training program by an expert committee and stakeholders. This training program was piloted to find out the acceptability, feasibility, impact, challenges and areas of improvement.
Methods. We followed mixed-methods approach to evaluate the 3-day pilot training with 20 participants at Mirpur, Dhaka. In quantitative part of evaluation we used a) pre and post test assessment that has been carefully designed to assess knowledge, skills, communication, attitudes and motivation, b) session specific questionnaire to find out feedback of the content, activities and time sensitivity of the session, anonymous feedback forms.

In the qualitative part, we conducted a) focus group discussions (FGDs) after completion of training with each group, b) observational notes from each session for deeper understanding.
Results. The pilot training engaged a diverse group of 20 participants and their age ranged from 24 to 52 years, representing 11 different organizations. Though most of the participants were working in the health sector for a long time, we found more than 10% of the participants believed there was no effective biomedical care for the serious mental disorder during pretesting. However, their perception changed during the training. The role playing and case scenario was the most engaging and enjoyable part. We found the participants considered their knowledge regarding the mental health increased up to 80% from their baseline. Our research team also found the increased number of referrals to the biomedical care from the community after the pilot training.
Conclusion. The increased motivation and sense of responsibility reported by participants underscore the training program's effectiveness and the experience and learning from this pilot helped us to further refinements of the training program for the traditional and faith based healer, community health workers and medicine to transform the mental health scenario in Bangladesh.