

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.

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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.

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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.

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

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