Assessing the outcome of compulsory treatment orders on management of psychiatric patients at two McGill University associated hospitals

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DATE ET HEURE / DATE AND TIME

Jeudi le 10 mars 12:00 à 13:00
Thursday March 10, 12:00 to 13:00

ENDROIT / LOCATION

Psychiatrie, local 3220 / Psychiatry, Room 3220
Centre hospitalier de St. Mary / St. Mary’s Hospital Centre

Un léger dîner sera servi / A light lunch will be served

Bienvenue à tous / Everyone is welcome
ABSTRACT

Objective: Some psychiatric patients require repeat hospitalizations due to the risk of danger that they pose to themselves or the public. Various strategies have been suggested to deal with this issue, including the use of compulsory treatment orders (CTOs). CTOs have been quite controversial since their introduction into the mental health acts of various jurisdictions. Current literature is composed of many contradictory studies. This project aims to examine the effectiveness of CTOs in treatment of psychiatric patients and delineate those factors associated with a successful CTO result.

Method: The sample included all psychiatric patients who had been given a court-ordered CTO from 01/08/1998 until 01/06/2005 at two of McGill university’s hospitals. This is a naturalistic retrospective before-and-after study where patients acted as their own control. It used patients’ hospital charts as it main source of information. We examined variables, including the number and duration of psychiatric admissions over the time frame of our study. These end points were also examined during the 5 year period prior to the first CTO until the end date of our study (10/08/2009).

Results: Our preliminary data analysis (n=72) indicates that severely ill psychiatric patients with histories of non-adherence and frequent readmissions, have a reduction in their number of hospitalizations as well as an increase in the median time between their hospitalizations, during the period when they are treated under a CTO.