

o i am. radioi manascript, avairable in i ivie 2011 110

Published in final edited form as:

J Pain. 2010 November; 11(11): 1047–1055. doi:10.1016/j.jpain.2009.10.012.

Clinical factors associated with prescription drug use disorder in urban primary care patients with chronic pain

Jane M. Liebschutz 1,2 , Richard Saitz 1,3,4 , Roger D. Weiss 5 , Tali Averbuch 6 , Sonia Schwartz 1 , Ellen C. Meltzer 1 , Elizabeth Claggett-Borne 1 , Howard Cabral 7 , and Jeffrey H. Samet 1,2

- ¹ Section of General Internal Medicine, Boston Medical Center, Clinical Addiction Research and Education (CARE) Unit, and Department of Medicine, Boston University School of Medicine
- ² Department of Social and Behavioral Sciences, Boston University School of Public Health
- ³ Youth Alcohol Prevention Center
- ⁴ Department of Epidemiology, Boston University School of Public Health
- ⁵ Harvard Medical School and McLean Hospital
- ⁶ University of Pennsylvania School of Nursing
- ⁷ Department of Biostatistics, Boston University School of Public Health

Abstract

This study examined characteristics associated with prescription drug use disorder (PDUD) in primary care patients with chronic pain from a cross-sectional survey conducted at an urban academically-affiliated safety-net hospital. Participants were 18-60 years old, had pain for ≥ 3 months, took prescription or non-prescription analgesics, and spoke English. Measurements included the Composite International Diagnostic Interview (PDUD, other substance use disorders (SUD), Post-traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD)); Graded Chronic Pain Scale, smoking status; family history of SUD; and time spent in jail. Of 597 patients (41% male, 61% black, mean age 46 years), 110 (18.4%) had PDUD of whom 99 (90%) had another SUD. In adjusted analyses, those with PDUD were more likely than those without any current or past SUD to report jail time (OR 5.1, 95% CI 2.8-9.3), family history of SUD (OR 3.4, 1.9-6.0), greater pain-related limitations (OR 3.8, 1.2-11.7), cigarette smoking (OR 3.6, 2.0-6.2), or to be white (OR 3.2, 1.7-6.0), male (OR 1.9, 1.1-3.5) or have PTSD (OR 1.9, 1.1-3.4). PDUD appears increased among those with easily identifiable characteristics. The challenge is to determine who among those with risk factors can avoid, with proper management, developing the increasingly common diagnosis of PDUD.

For reprints and correspondence: Jane Liebschutz MD MPH, Section of General Internal Medicine, Boston Medical Center, 801 Massachusetts Ave, 2nd Floor, Boston, MA 02118-2334, jane.liebschutz@bmc.org.

PERSPECTIVE

This article examines risk factors for prescription drug use disorder (PDUD) among a sample of primary care patients with chronic pain at an urban, academic, safety-net hospital. The findings may help clinicians identify those most at risk for developing PDUD when developing appropriate treatment plans.

Authors report no conflict of interest.

Publisher's Disclaimer: This is a PDF file of an unedited manuscript that has been accepted for publication. As a service to our customers we are providing this early version of the manuscript. The manuscript will undergo copyediting, typesetting, and review of the resulting proof before it is published in its final citable form. Please note that during the production process errors may be discovered which could affect the content, and all legal disclaimers that apply to the journal pertain.

Keywords

Primary care; substance abuse; pain

INTRODUCTION

Chronic non-cancer pain affects one-fifth of primary care patients.²³ One pain treatment is opioid analgesic medication, which has been increasingly prescribed over the last decade,²⁸; ³⁹; ⁵⁹ despite controversy about effectiveness.²⁰; ³⁶ Notwithstanding questions of efficacy, one risk to prescribing these medications is the potential of opioid addiction.²⁶; ³⁶; ⁵⁷

The increase in prescribing has co-occurred with increasing misuse and abuse. This phenomenon ranges from misuse (non-medical use, or for reasons other than prescribed) to the prescription drug use disorders (PDUDs) defined as abuse (misuse with consequences) or dependence (abuse with withdrawal or tolerance and/or uncontrolled use)4. Rates of opioid misuse have increased since the 1990s, when lifetime misuse of pain relievers was less than 10%.53 The 2007 National Survey on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH) found that, among people over the age of 12, lifetime misuse of pain relievers increased to 13.3%. While 18.1% of the misused opioid analgesic medication came from legitimate physician prescriptions, 81% came from a friend or relative who was originally prescribed the medication by a physician. 16 Consequently, law enforcement efforts to stop opioid diversion have extended to physicians prescribing opioids for pain, adding fear of legal prosecution to provider concerns.47 A further correlate of an increase in prescribing of opioids has been an increase in overdose, both intentional and unintentional.21; 40

In this atmosphere, physicians report discomfort when prescribing opioid analgesics, ⁵²; ²; ⁴² with particular concerns over the potential addiction risks and legal implications. ⁵²; ⁴⁵; ⁴⁴; ⁶ When patients have a known substance use disorder (SUD), physician discomfort about prescribing opioid analgesics increases, primarily due to suspicions that patient medication requests are motivated by addiction rather than pain. ³⁷ Given these concerns about prescribing opioids, it would be useful to identify patient characteristics that are associated with prescription drug use disorder (PDUD).

Past research on the prevalence of and risk factors for PDUD among primary care patients with chronic pain is limited by a number of factors: focus on a populations referred for specialized pain treatment or who had been successfully maintained on more than six months of opioid therapy; diagnostic measures that have not been validated; or administrative databases. Ives et. al reported that 32% of patients referred to a primary-care-based chronic pain disease management program were misusing opioids, ²⁶ similar to other studies. ⁴³; ¹⁰ Racial and ethnic minorities were a small fraction of patients studied.

Among patients treated with opioid analgesics risk factors for opioid misuse include: SUDs, 43; 38; 26; 34; 56 family history of SUDs, 38; 34 cigarette smoking, 10; 38 legal problems, 38; 26 younger age^{43; 34; 19; 36} and higher doses of opioid medication. 38 Evidence of psychiatric comorbidity and higher pain severity were associated with opioid misuse in some studies, 38; 34; 19; 35; 36; 56 but not others. 26

Other studies have examined the risks for all substance use disorders for patients on opioids. ¹⁹ While national surveys have found that persons with PDUD often have overlapping polysubstance use disorders, ⁴⁹; ⁵⁰; ¹¹; ¹³ clinical samples have not examined how patients with PDUD may be similar or different from those with SUDs other than PDUD.

We therefore conducted a study to examine the clinical characteristics of individuals with lifetime PDUD using validated measures among a population of primary care patients with chronic pain drawn from an urban safety-net hospital setting. We also explored whether those with PDUD differ from those with SUDs other than PDUD. We hypothesized that factors similar to those identified in prior clinical studies of referral pain patients as well as epidemiological surveys would be present in an urban, minority sample. If clinicians are aware of relevant risk factors for PDUD in this population, they may be able to provide more informed clinical care.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Study Design

This was a cross-sectional study of primary care patients with chronic pain, designed to examine characteristics of those with prescription drug use disorder. Participants were recruited from waiting rooms of an academic, urban, safety-net ⁷ hospital primary care practice that has 80,000 visits and 32,000 unique patients annually. Eligible patients were 18-60 years of age, spoke English, endorsed pain of three months or more, reported use of any analgesic medication (over-the-counter or prescription in the prior month), and had a scheduled primary care appointment. Interviewers included both bachelor and master level research assistants, each trained for 2 weeks with ongoing quality control and principal investigator supervision. Interviewers approached patients in primary care waiting rooms per a predetermined pattern based on location in the waiting rooms and asked potential participants if they were interested in participating in a study on pain and health and to complete written screening questions. Eligible patients were told that the study interview would include questions about pain history, feeling sad or nervous, being hurt by someone and using health care services. Informed consent was administered to eligible patients. Interviews lasted 45-90 minutes and participants were compensated \$10. Recruitment occurred between February 2005 and August 2006. The Boston University Medical Center Institutional Review Board approved the study and Certificate of Confidentiality was obtained from the National Institutes of Health.

Participants

Of the 2194 patients who answered the screening questions, 822 (37.4%) were eligible for the study, of whom 620 (75.4%) agreed to participate. Twenty-three participants did not complete enough of the interview due to time constraints including the SUD and PDUD assessment, and were excluded, leaving a sample of 597. When comparing those who enrolled with those who declined, enrollees were more likely to be black (61.0% v. 54.9%, p=0.04), less likely to take over-the-counter pain medication (66.4% vs. 78.5%, p <0.001), and more likely to take opioid pain medication (41% vs. 29.7%, p=0.002).

Key Variables

Unless otherwise noted, all variables were obtained from subject interview.

Dependent Variables—Prescription Drug Use Disorder (PDUD) was defined as meeting DSM-IV criteria for lifetime sedative and/or opioid analgesic prescription drug abuse or dependence as measured by the Composite International Diagnostic Interview (CIDI) v.2.1 module on Drug Disorders. 4; 58 Sedative was explicitly described, and included benzodiazepines and barbituates. Criteria for abuse included social, physical or legal consequences from use. The criteria for dependence additionally included compulsive use, health consequences, and physical dependence (i.e., tolerance or withdrawal). Physical dependence alone would not suffice to meet the diagnosis. Participants with PDUD could also have another SUD.

Other Substance Use Disorder (Other SUD) was defined as meeting DSM-IV criteria for any lifetime drug (excluding prescription) abuse or dependence measured using CIDI v 2.1 module on Drug Disorders, and/or past year alcohol dependence measured with the CIDI-short form (CIDI-SF) for alcohol dependence. 58 Current alcohol abuse and past alcohol use disorders were not measured as the CIDI-SF was used to reduce respondent time burden. Nicotine dependence was not included among other SUDs. We coded the mutually exclusive 3-level outcome variable as PDUD +/- SUD, Other SUD (SUD alone), or no PDUD or SUD.

Independent Variables—We examined factors that we anticipated would be associated with PDUD or SUD, based on review of literature from clinical and epidemiological studies. We prioritized assessment of variables from a range of potential options based on strength of association with PDUD and SUD. For example, we chose to measure two major mental health disorders: depression and PTSD. Both are associated with pain, and PTSD is strongly associated with SUD. Other anxiety disorders were not measured because of the overlap with PTSD in a prior study in the same population.³³ A variety of specific violence measures were included to examine whether the independent associations with PDUD or SUD would be eliminated when PTSD or depression were considered. High pain severity and physical health related quality of life have been suggested as predictors of PDUD³⁴ as have prior incarceration 38; 26, cigarette smoking 10; 38 and family history of SUD.38 The following independent variables were defined as: 1) sociodemographics including age (in years), gender, race/ethnicity (Black, Hispanic, White, other), income (≥ or < \$20,000), employment: (unemployed or receiving disability payments vs. other), education (< high school, high school +), marital status (partnered, divorced, single), health insurance (Medicaid/Medicare vs. othersincluding private and uninsured); 2) pain-related limitations (high vs. others) from the Graded Chronic Pain Scale, a 10-item validated measure of pain and disability;54 3) post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) diagnosis from the CIDI v. 2.1 PTSD module;58 4) major depression from the Patient Health Questionnaire (PHQ) for Depression, a 9-item validated measure correlated with past two week major depression;30 5) high adverse childhood experiences (ACE) (≥3 vs. <3 experiences) as adapted from Felitti;18 (Examples of ACE are physical abuse, neglect, sexual abuse, parental mental illness, single parent household, parental incarceration, witnessing domestic violence); 6) intimate partner violence (IPV) - 1 or more affirmative responses to questions adapted from the Add Health Home Questionnaire; 17) family history of SUD (single question about 1st degree relatives with alcohol or drug problems); 8) jail time (single question about having spent time in jail); 11) SF-12 health-related quality of life physical and mental health composite scores;⁵⁵ 10) current cigarette smoking (taken from the Electronic Medical Record (EMR) visit closest to the interview date); and 11) opioid, benzodiazepine or sedative prescription in the past year (from the EMR).

Analysis

Bivariate analyses examined associations between three mutually exclusive groups: 1) lifetime PDUD (with or without other SUD); 2) lifetime other SUD (not including PDUD); and 3) no lifetime SUD or PDUD. If significant associations were found, then pair-wise comparisons were conducted. A multinomial multivariable logistic regression model was then constructed predicting PDUD, other SUD and no lifetime SUD or PDUD entering all independent variables found to be significant at the p< 0.05 level in the bivariate analyses. The results of this model are not shown here. We also included interaction terms which we suspected based on independent correlations and clinical intuition. We tested interactions between every possible pairing of variables within the 2 groupings: 1. Disability-related (3 pairs tested): insurance status, employment status, pain limitation, 2. Mental health/violence exposure (10 pairs tested): depression, SF-12 mental component summary score, PTSD, high-ACE, IPV-victimization. We then fit a subsequent parsimonious model which included all the independent predictors and the one significant interaction (IPV and depression). We also fit a separate logistic

regression model with the same independent variables comparing only PDUD to other SUD. We then calculated the number and percentage of participants with each number of the variables found significant in the multinomial regression analysis in three mutually exclusive groups, PDUD, other SUD (i.e. without PDUD), and no SUD or PDUD. We also calculated the sensitivity and specificity of number of factors for PDUD.

RESULTS

Participant characteristics are shown in Table 1. Overall, a majority of the study sample was unemployed or disabled, poor, non-white, and experienced high pain disability. Forty percent had received an opioid prescription in the prior year. One hundred ten (18.4%) met criteria for lifetime PDUD, of whom 99 (90%) had another SUD and 61 (55.5%) met the PDUD diagnostic criteria in the past year. Fifty-five had both lifetime sedative and opioid analgesic use disorders, 44 had opioid analgesic use disorder only and 11 had sedative use disorder only. Seventy-one percent of those with PDUD reported addiction to medications not prescribed for them. One hundred forty-six (24.5%) had lifetime SUDs other than PDUD.

Bivariate Comparisons between PDUD, Other SUDs and No History of SUDs

Participants with PDUD and other SUDs both had higher percentages of participants with the following characteristics compared to participants without SUD: male gender, Medicaid/ Medicare, unemployment/disability, severely limiting pain, PTSD, depression, intimate partner victimization, family history of SUD, time spent in jail, and current smoking. Two measures showed differences between all three groups: mean SF-12 mental health component scores and ≥3 ACEs. In both cases the PDUD group had worse scores or greater exposures, respectively, compared to the other SUD group which in turn was worse than the no SUD group. The PDUD group had a higher percent of whites compared to both other SUD and no SUD. The PDUD group had a higher percentage with current PTSD compared to those with no SUD but was not different compared to those with other SUD. No other factors differed significantly between the three groups. (Table 1)

Independent Associations with PDUD and other SUDs

In the first multinomial analysis, the following factors were found to be significantly associated with PDUD and/or other SUDs: time spent in jail, current smoking, family history of SUD, male gender, white race, higher limiting pain, PTSD, IPV and depression. The interaction term between IPV and Depression was also statistically significant. In the final parsimonious model which included only those nine factors, time spent in jail, limiting pain, current smoking, family history of SUD, male gender and PTSD were associated with a greater odds of both PDUD and SUD. White race was associated with PDUD. IPV and no depression, and No IPV with depression were associated with other SUDs (Table 2). In a logistic regression analysis comparing PDUD with other SUDs, the only significant association was white race (odds ratio 2.1, 95% CI 1.8–3.9) (other results not shown).

Table 3 shows the prevalence of PDUD and other SUD for each number of factors (0 through all 9). All patients with PDUD had two or more risk factors, and no person without SUD had more than seven risk factors. The sensitivity and specificity of these combinations for PDUD are presented in Table 4.

DISCUSSION

In the primary care practice of an urban safety-net hospital, 18.4% of patients with chronic pain met criteria for a PDUD and an additional 24.5% had other SUDs. The vast majority of participants with PDUD had at least one co-occurring other SUD, and those with PDUD were

virtually indistinguishable from those with other SUDs. Seven patient characteristics were independently associated with PDUD compared to those without any lifetime SUD: time spent in jail, high degree of pain-related limitations, current smoking, family history of SUD, white race, male gender, and PTSD. The only difference between SUD and PDUD was the higher prevalence of white race in PDUD.

The finding that PDUD is highly associated with other SUDs corroborates prior clinical studies which relied on proxy measures for the determination of PDUD. ¹⁵; ⁴³; ³⁸; ⁵¹; ²⁶; ¹⁷ Ives et al. found that prior cocaine or alcohol abuse predicted prescription opioid misuse among patients at a pain management clinic. ²⁶ Studies which included smoking status as a correlate for PDUD found a striking association, as did our study. This reflects the exceptionally high co-morbidity of smoking with alcohol and illicit drug dependence found in other studies. ⁴⁶; ³⁸

For physicians who prescribe opioid and sedative medications, a critical concern is differentiating individuals who take medications for the intended therapeutic purposes from those with current, or potentially future, misuse and addiction. This cross-sectional study does not permit a longitudinal analysis of persons prescribed opioid analgesics. However, it does suggest that a propensity toward addiction (other SUD, family history of SUD, cigarette smoking) is a strong correlate of prescription drug use disorder. Fleming and colleagues found that positive urine toxicology screening for cocaine or marijuana and aberrant drug behaviors were among the significant predictors of SUD in primary care patients receiving opioids. ¹⁹ Data in our study suggest that those with PDUD have similar characteristics to those addicted to illicit drugs and alcohol. The 2005 report from the Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse at Columbia University corroborates this association in a community sample: 75% of persons who misuse prescription drugs have at least one co-occurring other SUD.11 Of note, a physician may consider screening patients with pain and other risk factors for prescription drug use disorder even in the absence of prescribing controlled substances as most participants with PDUD in this study obtained the medication from sources other than a treating clinician.

A strong association of both PDUD and other SUDs was having spent time in jail. Almost two-thirds of those with PDUD reported having spent time in jail, compared to 15.3% of those with no SUD. The relationship between criminal activity and prescription drug abuse has been suggested in prior studies. ^{11; 26} Akbik and colleagues reported prior legal problems predict subsequent opioid misuse among patients starting opioids for chronic pain. ³ It is not known whether the jail history was due to crimes related to drug use, possession, manufacture or sale, which would suggest a history of SUD. It also may be a proxy for anti-social behavior, which is associated with PDUD. ²⁴

The associations of white race and male gender with PDUD in this sample reflect findings in other clinical and population samples. ^{13; 24; 8} Whites are prescribed more opioid medications in Emergency Departments and primary care practices, perhaps reflecting a cultural bias by patients and physicians toward use of prescription opioids. ^{12; 41} Male gender predominance reflects epidemiology of SUDs in general, although some data suggest more gender balance in PDUD. These trends suggest that future research should explore the social context, including gender and racial differences, of these associations.

Patients with PDUD reported a greater degree of pain-related limitation. Others have found low pain intolerance among those with active ¹⁴ and past addictions ³² compared to non-addicted controls. It may be that lower pain threshold is an increased risk for developing addiction, or that addiction itself lowers the pain tolerance. This may complicate pain management among those with PDUD.

Among this sample of urban primary care patients with chronic pain, PTSD was associated with PDUD. PTSD is known to be associated with SUD in clinical and community samples,

²⁹; ⁹; ²⁷; ³³ but the relationship with PDUD has not been described. The scientific evidence for neurological and physiological changes in PTSD, ²⁵; ⁴⁸ pain ⁵; ³¹; ⁶ and substance use disorders²² is growing. Exploring these overlapping phenomena may allow development of tailored interventions.

Intimate partner violence and depression appeared to be individually associated with SUD but not PDUD, when accounting for the interaction between these phenomena. These associations may function differently in gender specific analyses which should be explored in future studies. The fact that Adverse Childhood Experiences were not independently associated with either PDUD or SUD after controlling for other variables suggests that its effect is mediated through other variables such as PTSD which remained significant in the final model.

These data strongly suggest that physicians treating patients with pain should assess for SUD. This can help direct care, including treatment for pain and substance use disorders. Specialty pain practices who commonly prescribe opioid analgesics are likely to screen for this, but primary care settings may not be as aware of the overlap between pain and addictions. Furthermore, patients do not always admit to SUD, particularly if they are intent on deceiving the treating physician to obtain prescription medication. Potential screening questions for patients with chronic pain could include assessment of smoking and specific questions used in this study: "Do you have a family history of alcohol or drug problems?", "Have you ever spent time in jail?" Evaluations for pain disability and PTSD may be additional clinical tools to help identify those at highest risk for PDUD.

After identifying a patient with risk factors, should clinicians prescribe opioid medications? In an observational study, Wiedemer and colleagues examined the impact of a structured opioid clinic for patients with risk factors, including psychiatric and substance use problems.⁵⁷ All patients with SUD but no aberrant behaviors were safely maintained on opioids.⁵⁷ Clinical trials testing methods of opioid medication monitoring could inform clinicians about how to safely prescribe them to high risk patients.

This study adds to the literature in three ways. First, it examines an urban, largely poor and minority sample, which is underrepresented in the literature. Secondly, validated measures of PDUD used in this study improve upon the use of proxy measures that most other studies have employed. Finally, subjects were primary care patients with chronic pain, not limited to those being prescribed chronic opioid medication. This can illuminate issues about patients who may require opioid analgesics in the future, common clinical concerns of urban primary care pain patients.

The study limitations include possible misclassification of PDUD in individuals with pseudo-addiction, i.e. behaviors that resemble addiction but result from inadequate treatment of pain.

15 We believe that this is not a significant limitation as the diagnostic criteria demand social or physical problems and compulsive use, which are not characteristic of pseudo-addiction. Furthermore, 71% had addictions to medications that were not prescribed for them, which lowers the probability of misclassification. Another limitation was that lifetime alcohol use disorders were not measured which should attenuate any associations found because of misclassification bias. Since numerous independent predictors of PDUD and SUD were found, it is not clear how information on lifetime alcohol disorders would change the associations. The cross-sectional design limits conclusions regarding cause and effect; the findings would be strengthened by studying a longitudinal cohort. The recruitment strategy may limit the generalizability of the findings. However, as this was a study of PDUD risk factors and not prevalence, the associations should remain stable in a similar sample. Another limitation is that no corroborating evidence of prescription drug misuse was obtained, such as urine toxicology screening. Such testing can be helpful as a supplement to self-report.

In an urban cohort of primary care patients with high levels of pain disability, unemployment and psychosocial stressors, PDUD was concentrated among those with a: family history of SUDs, having spent time in jail, current cigarette smoking, male gender, white race, pain-related functional limitations and PTSD. The vast majority had co-occurring other SUDs. This suggests that clinicians could gain clinical insight by carefully evaluating such patients for these risk factors when developing a comprehensive pain management strategy. It may also suggest which patients would benefit from a structured program for use of opioid medications. Refining the knowledge base on co-occurrence of addiction and pain could maximize safe and effective pain relief strategies.

Acknowledgments

The authors thank Denis Rybin, MSc for his assistance on data analysis.

The study was funded by K23 DA016665, K24 DA022288 from the National Institute of Drug Abuse and K24 AA015674 from the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism.

References

- 1. Add Health Questionnaire: Wave III In Home Questionnaire Code Book. The National Longitudinal Study of Adolescent Health
- Adams N, Plane M, Fleming MF, Mundt M, Saunders L, Stauffacher E. Opioids and the treatment of chronic pain in a primary care sample. Journal of Pain and Symptom Management 2001;22(3):791– 796. [PubMed: 11532592]
- 3. Akbik H, Butler SF, Budman SH, Fernandez K, Katz NP, Jamison RN. Validation and clinical application of the screener and opioid assessment for patients with pain (SOAPP). J Pain Symptom Manage 2006;32(3):287–293. [PubMed: 16939853]
- 4. American Psychiatric Association editor Title|, Vol. Volume|. City|: Publisher|, Year|. _
- 5. Apkarian AV, Sosa Y, Sonty S, Levy RM, Harden RN, Parrish TB, Gitelman DR. Chronic back pain is associated with decreased prefrontal and thalamic gray matter density. J Neurosci 2004;24(46): 10410–10415. [PubMed: 15548656]
- Baliki MN, Geha PY, Apkarian AV, Chialvo DR. Beyond feeling: chronic pain hurts the brain, disrupting the default-mode network dynamics. J Neurosci 2008;28(6):1398–1403. [PubMed: 18256259]
- 7. Baxter RJ, Mechanic RE. The status of local health care safety nets. Health Aff (Millwood) 1997;16 (4):7–23. [PubMed: 9248145]
- 8. Blanco C, Alderson D, Ogburn E, Grant BF, Nunes EV, Hatzenbuehler ML, Hasin DS. Changes in the prevalence of non-medical prescription drug use and drug use disorders in the United States: 1991–1992 and 2001–2002. Drug Alcohol Depend 2007;90(2–3):252–260. [PubMed: 17513069]
- 9. Bremner JD, Southwick SM, Darnell A, Charney DS. Chronic PTSD in Vietnam combat veterans: course of illness and substance abuse. American Journal of Psychiatry 1996;153(3):369–375. [PubMed: 8610824]
- 10. Butler SF, Budman SH, Fernandez K, Jamison RN. Validation of a screener and opioid assessment measure for patients with chronic pain. Pain 2004;112(1–2):65–75. [PubMed: 15494186]
- 11. Califano, JA. The National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse. Columbia University; Jul. 2005 Under the counter: The diversion and abuse of controlled prescription drugs in the US.
- Chen I, Kurz J, Pasanen M, Faselis C, Panda M, Staton LJ, O'Rorke J, Menon M, Genao I, Wood J, Mechaber AJ, Rosenberg E, Carey T, Calleson D, Cykert S. Racial differences in opioid use for chronic nonmalignant pain. J Gen Intern Med 2005;20(7):593–598. [PubMed: 16050852]
- 13. Cicero TJ, Inciardi JA, Munoz A. Trends in abuse of Oxycontin and other opioid analgesics in the United States: 2002–2004. J Pain 2005;6(10):662–672. [PubMed: 16202959]
- 14. Compton P, Charuvastra VC, Kintaudi K, Ling W. Pain responses in methadone-maintained opioid abusers. Journal of Pain and Symptom Management 2000;20(4):237–245. [PubMed: 11027904]

15. Compton P, Darakjian J, Miotto K. Screening for addiction in patients with chronic pain and "problematic" substance use: evaluation of a pilot assessment tool. Journal of Pain & Symptom Management 1998;16(6):355–363. [PubMed: 9879160]

- 16. Department of Health and Human Services. Results from the 2007 National Survey on Drug Use and Health: National Findings.
- Edlund MJ, Steffick D, Hudson T, Harris KM, Sullivan M. Risk factors for clinically recognized opioid abuse and dependence among veterans using opioids for chronic non-cancer pain. Pain 2007;129(3):355–362. [PubMed: 17449178]
- 18. Felitti VJ, Anda RF, Nordenberg D, Williamson DF, Spitz AM, Edwards V, Koss MP, Marks JS. Relationship of childhood abuse and household dysfunction to many of the leading causes of death in adults. The Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACE) Study. American Journal of Preventive Medicine 1998;14(4):245–258. [PubMed: 9635069]
- 19. Fleming MF, Balousek SL, Klessig CL, Mundt MP, Brown DD. Substance use disorders in a primary care sample receiving daily opioid therapy. Journal of Pain 2007;8(7):573–582. [PubMed: 17499555]
- 20. Furlan AD, Sandoval JA, Mailis-Gagnon A, Tunks E. Opioids for chronic noncancer pain: a meta-analysis of effectiveness and side effects. Cmaj 2006;174(11):1589–1594. [PubMed: 16717269]
- Gilson AM, Ryan KM, Joranson DE, Dahl JL. A reassessment of trends in the medical use and abuse of opioid analgesics and implications for diversion control: 1997–2002. J Pain Symptom Manage 2004;28(2):176–188. [PubMed: 15276196]
- 22. Goldstein RZ, Volkow ND. Drug addiction and its underlying neurobiological basis: neuroimaging evidence for the involvement of the frontal cortex. Am J Psychiatry 2002;159(10):1642–1652. [PubMed: 12359667]
- 23. Gureje O, Simon G, Von Korff M. A cross-national study of the course of persistent pain in primary care. Pain 2001;92:195–200. [PubMed: 11323140]
- 24. Huang B, Dawson DA, Stinson FS, Hasin DS, Ruan WJ, Saha TD, Smith SM, Goldstein RB, Grant BF. Prevalence, correlates, and comorbidity of nonmedical prescription drug use and drug use disorders in the United States: Results of the National Epidemiologic Survey on Alcohol and Related Conditions. J Clin Psychiatry 2006;67(7):1062–1073. [PubMed: 16889449]
- 25. Hull AM. Neuroimaging findings in post-traumatic stress disorder. Systematic review. Br J Psychiatry 2002;181:102–110. [PubMed: 12151279]
- 26. Ives T, Chelminski P, Hammett-Stabler C, Malone R, Perhac J, Potisek N, Shilliday B, DeWalt D, Pignone M. Predictors of opioid misuse in patients with chronic pain: a prospective cohort study. BMC Health Services Research 2006;6(46)
- 27. Jacobsen LK, Southwick SM, Kosten TR. Substance use disorders in patients with posttraumatic stress disorder: a review of the literature. American Journal of Psychiatry 2001;158(8):1184–1190. [PubMed: 11481147]
- 28. Joranson DE, Ryan KM, Gilson AM, Dahl JL. Trends in medical use and abuse of opioid analgesics. JAMA 2000;283(13):1710–1714. [PubMed: 10755497]
- Kessler RC, Sonnega A, Bromet E, Hughes M, Nelson CB. Posttraumatic stress disorder in the National Comorbidity Survey. Archives of General Psychiatry 1995;52:1048–1060. [PubMed: 7492257]
- 30. Kroenke K. The PHQ-9: A new depression and diagnostic severity measure. Psychiatric Annals 2002;32:509–521.
- 31. Kuchinad A, Schweinhardt P, Seminowicz DA, Wood PB, Chizh BA, Bushnell MC. Accelerated brain gray matter loss in fibromyalgia patients: premature aging of the brain? J Neurosci 2007;27 (15):4004–4007. [PubMed: 17428976]
- 32. Liebman PM, Lehofer M, Schonauer-Cejpek M, Legl T, Pernhaupt G, Moser M, Schauenstein K. Pain sensitivity in former opioid addicts. Lancet 1994;344(8928):1031–1032. [PubMed: 7934419]
- 33. Liebschutz J, Saitz R, Brower V, Keane TM, Lloyd-Travaglini C, Averbuch T, Samet JH. PTSD in urban primary care: high prevalence and low physician recognition. Journal of General Internal Medicine 2007;22(6):719–726. [PubMed: 17503105]
- 34. Manchikanti L, Cash K, Damron K, Manchukonda R, Pampati V, McManus C. Controlled substance abuse and illicit drug use in chronic pain patients: An evaluation of multiple variables. Pain Physician 2006;9:215–226. [PubMed: 16886030]

35. Manchikanti L, Giordano J, Boswell M, Fellows B, Manchukonda R, Pampati V. Psychological factors as predictors of opioid abuse and illicit drug use in chronic pain patients. Journal of Opioid Management 2007;3(2):89–100. [PubMed: 17520988]

- 36. Martell BA, O'Connor PG, Kerns RD, Becker WC, Morales KH, Kosten TR, Fiellin DA. Systematic review: opioid treatment for chronic back pain: prevalence, efficacy, and association with addiction. Ann Intern Med 2007;146(2):116–127. [PubMed: 17227935]
- 37. Merrill JO, Rhodes LA, Deyo RA, Marlatt GA, Bradley KA. Mutual mistrust in the medical care of drug users: the keys to the "narc" cabinet. Journal of General Internal Medicine 2002;17(5):327–333. [PubMed: 12047728]
- 38. Michna E, Ross EL, Hynes WL, Nedeljkovic SS, Soumekh S, Janfaza D, Palombi D, Jamison RN. Predicting aberrant drug behavior in patients treated for chronic pain: importance of abuse history. Journal of Pain & Symptom Management 2004;28(3):250–258. [PubMed: 15336337]
- 39. Olsen Y, Daumit GL. Opioid prescribing for chronic nonmalignant pain in primary care: challenges and solutions. Advances in Psychosomatic Medicine 2004;25:138–150. [PubMed: 15248372]
- 40. Paulozzi LJ, Budnitz DS, Xi Y. Increasing deaths from opioid analgesics in the United States. Pharmacoepidemiol Drug Saf 2006;15(9):618–627. [PubMed: 16862602]
- 41. Pletcher MJ, Kertesz SG, Kohn MA, Gonzales R. Trends in opioid prescribing by race/ethnicity for patients seeking care in US emergency departments. JAMA 2008;299(1):70–78. [PubMed: 18167408]
- 42. Potter M, Schafer S, Gonzalez-Mendez E, Gjeltema K, Lobez A, QWu J, Pedrin R, Cozen M, Wilson R, Thom D, Croughan-Minihane M. Opioids for chronic nonmalignant pain. The Journal of Family Practice 2001;50(2):145–151. [PubMed: 11219563]
- Reid MC, Engles-Horton LL, Weber MB, Kerns RD, Rogers EL, O'Connor PG. Use of opioid medications for chronic noncancer pain syndromes in primary care. Journal of General Internal Medicine 2002;17(3):173–179. [PubMed: 11929502]
- 44. Reidenberg MM, Willis O. Prosecution of physicians for prescribing opioids to patients. Clin Pharmacol Ther 2007;81(6):903–906. [PubMed: 17329989]
- 45. Richard J, Reidenberg MM. The risk of disciplinary action by state medical boards against physicians prescribing opioids. J Pain Symptom Manage 2005;29(2):206–212. [PubMed: 15733811]
- Richter KP, Gibson CA, Ahluwalia JS, Schmelzle KH. Tobacco use and quit attempts among methadone maintenance clients. American Journal of Public Health 2001;91(2):296–299. [PubMed: 11211643]
- 47. Rosenberg T. When is a Pain Doctor a Drug Pusher?
- 48. Shin LM, Rauch SL, Pitman RK. Amygdala, medial prefrontal cortex, and hippocampal function in PTSD. Ann N Y Acad Sci 2006;1071:67–79. [PubMed: 16891563]
- 49. Simoni-Wastila L, Ritter G, Strickler G. Gender and other factors associated with the nonmedical use of abusable prescription drugs. Subst Use Misuse 2004;39(1):1–23. [PubMed: 15002942]
- 50. Simoni-Wastila L, Strickler G. Risk factors associated with problem use of prescription drugs. Am J Public Health 2004;94(2):266–268. [PubMed: 14759941]
- 51. Sullivan MD, Edlund MJ, Steffick D, Unutzer J. Regular use of prescribed opioids: association with common psychiatric disorders. Pain 2005;119(1–3):95–103. [PubMed: 16298066]
- 52. Turk D. Clinicians' additudes about prolonged use of opioids and the issue of patient heterogeneity. Journal of Pain and Symptom Managment 1996;11(4):218–230.
- 53. US Department of Health and Human Services. Summary of Findings From the National Household Survey on Drug Abuse.
- 54. Von Korff M, Ormel J, Keefe FJ, Dworkin SF. Grading the severity of chronic pain. Pain 1992;50 (2):133–149. [PubMed: 1408309]
- 55. Ware J Jr, Kosinski M, Keller SD. A 12-Item Short-Form Health Survey: construction of scales and preliminary tests of reliability and validity. Medical Care 1996;34(3):220–233. [PubMed: 8628042]
- 56. Webster LR, Webster RM. Predicting aberrant behaviors in opioid-treated patients: Preliminary validation of the opioid risk tool. Pain Medicine 2007;6(6):432–442. [PubMed: 16336480]

57. Wiedemer NL, Harden PS, Arndt IO, Gallagher RM. The opioid renewal clinic: A primary care, managed approach to opioid therapy in chronic pain patients at risk for substance abuse. Pain Medicine. 2007

- 58. World Health Organization. Composite International Diagnostic Interview (CIDI): Version 2.1.
- Zerzan JT, Morden NE, Soumerai S, Ross-Degnan D, Roughead E, Zang F, Simoni-Wastila L, Sullivan SD. Trends and Geographic Variation of Opiate Medication Use in State Medicaid Fee-for-Service Programs. Medical Care 2006;44(11):1005–1010. [PubMed: 17063132]

Table 1

Participant characteristics, stratified by presence or absence of Prescription Drug Use Disorder and Substance Use Disorder diagnoses (n=597)

Liebschutz et al.

	:		Group 3 No		Pai	Pairwise Comparison	son
Variable	Group 1 Prescription Drug Use Disorder (PDUD) N= 110 N(%)	Group 2 Other Substance Use Disorder * N=146 N(%)	Substance Use Disorder N=341 N (%)	Global P-value	Group 1	Group 1	Group 2 vs. 3
Age in Years Mean (SD)	44.4 (9.0)	46.1 (8.1)	46.1 (10.4)	0.2			
Sex							
Male	60 (54.5)	83 (56.9)	104 (30.5)	<0.0001	0.71	<0.0001	<0.0001
Female	50 (45.5)	63 (43.1)	237 (69.5)				
Race							
Black	51 (46.4)	90 (62.0)	222 (65.3)	1000'0>	0.02	<0.0001	0.12
Hispanic	10 (9.1)	14 (9.7)	35 (10.3)				
White	39 (35.4)	27 (18.6)	37 (10.9)				
Other	10 (9.1)	14 (9.7)	46 (13.5)				
Income							
<\$20,000	62 (56.4)	89 (61.0)	214 (62.8)	0.49			
>\$20,000	48 (43.6)	57 (39.0)	127 (37.2)				
Employment							
Employed	33 (30.0)	43 (29.5)	160 (46.9)	10000	0.92	0.002	0.0004
Unemployed	77 (70.0)	103 (70.5)	181 (53.1)				
Health Insurance							
Medicaid	80 (72.7)	100 (68.5)	183 (53.7)	0.002	0.83	0.007	0.007
Medicare	6 (5.5)	10 (6.9)	14 (4.1)				
Private Insurance	3 (2.7)	4 (2.7)	17 (5.0)				
Uncompensated Care State Fund	19 (17.3)	31 (21.2)	113 (33.1)				
Other	2 (1.8)	1 (0.7)	14 (4.1)				
Education							
<high school<="" td=""><td>26 (23.6)</td><td>46 (31.5)</td><td>94 (27.6)</td><td>0.38</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></high>	26 (23.6)	46 (31.5)	94 (27.6)	0.38			
≥High School	84 (76.4)	100 (68.5)	247 (72.4)				
Marital Status							

Page 12

Liebschutz et al.

	J. S. South of S.		Group 3 No		Pai	Pairwise Comparison	ison
Variable	Group 1 Prescription Drug Use Disorder (PDUD) N= 110 N(%)	Group 2 Other Substance Use Disorder * N=146 N(%)	Substance Use Disorder N=341 N (%)	Global P-value	Group 1 vs. 2	Group 1	Group 2 vs. 3
Partnered	23 (20.9)	38 (26.0)	105 (30.8)	0.28			
Separated/ Divorced/ Widowed	42 (38.2)	46 (31.5)	111 (32.5)				
Single	45 (40.9)	62 (42.5)	125 (36.7)				
Limiting Pain							
Yes	104 (94.5)	136 (93.1)	295 (86.5)	0.02	0.65	0.03	0.04
No	6 (5.5)	10 (6.9)	46 (13.5)				
Lifetime PTSD							
Yes	52 (47.3)	67 (45.9)	100 (29.3)	0.0001	0.82	90000	50000
No	58 (52.7)	79 (54.1)	241 (70.7)				
Current PTSD							
Yes	31 (28.2)	33 (22.6)	59 (17.3)	0.04	0.31	0.01	0.17
No	79 (71.8)	113 (77.4)	282 (82.7)				
Depression							
Yes	55 (50.0)	67 (45.9)	127 (37.2)	0.03	0.5	0.02	0.07
No	55 (50.0)	79 (54.1)	214 (62.8)				
≥3 ACE							
Yes	70 (63.6)	73 (50.0)	106 (31.1)	<0.001	0.03	<0.0001	<0.0001
No	40 (36.4)	73 (50.0)	235 (68.9)				
IPV Victim							
Yes	70 (63.6)	86 (58.9)	145 (42.5)	<0.0001	0.44	0.0001	0.001
No	40 (36.4)	60 (41.1)	196 (57.5)				
Family History of SUD							
Yes	76 (69.1)	96 (65.8)	114 (33.4)	<0.0001	0.57	<0.0001	<0.0001
No	34 (30.9)	50 (34.2)	227 (66.6)				
Time in Jail							
Yes	70 (63.6)	81 (55.5)	52 (15.3)	<0.0001	0.19	<0.0001	<0.0001
No	40 (36.4)	65 (44.5)	289 (84.7)				
Smoking							

Page 13

NIH-PA Author Manuscript

			Group 3 No		Pai	Pairwise Comparison	nos
Variable	Drug Use Disorder (PDUD) N= 110 N(%)	Group 2 Other Substance Use Disorder* N=146 N(%)	Substance Ose Disorder N=341 N (%)	Global P-value	Group 1 vs. 2	Group 1	Group 2 vs. 3
Never	24 (23.3)	40 (28.6)	198 (61.5)	<0.0001	0.28	<0.0001	<0.0001
Previously	8 (7.8)	17 (12.1)	30 (9.3)				
Current	71 (68.9)	83 (59.3)	94 (29.2)				
Opioid Prescription in the Past Year							
Yes	47 (42.7)	59 (41.8)	132 (39.2)	0.75			
No	63 (57.3)	82 (58.2)	205 (60.8)				
Benzodiazepine Prescription in the Past Year							
Yes	14 (12.7)	18 (12.8)	26 (7.7)	0.13			
No	96 (87.3)	123 (87.2)	311 (92.3)				
Hypnotics Prescription in the Past Year							
Yes	7 (6.4)	7 (5.0)	17 (5.0)	0.85			
No	103 (93.6)	134 (95.0)	320 (95.0)				
Pain Duration, years Mean (SD)	8.7 (8.6)	7.7 (8.3)	8.0 (9.1)	9.0			
SF-12 Physical Health Mean (SD)	35.7 (11.1)	36.1 (11.5)	36.9 (11.9)	9.0			
SF-12 Mental Health Mean (SD)	38.7 (11.5)	40.4 (12.3)	43.9 (12.9)	0.0001	0.03	0.0002	0.004

*
Other Substance Use Disorder includes participants with any substance use disorder, excluding prescription drug use disorder

PTSD = Post-traumatic Stress Disorder

 $ACE = High\ Adverse\ Childhood\ Experiences$

IPV = Intimate Partner Violence

 $SUD = Substance \ Use \ Disorder$

SF-12 Physical and Mental Health = Short Form-12 Physical and Mental Health Quality of Life

Table 2

Independent associations with Prescription Drug Use Disorder and Other Substance Use Disorder compared to participants with no history of Substance Use Disorder* (n=597)

Effect	PDUD Odds Ratio	95% CI	Other SUD Odds Ratio	95% CI
Time in Jail	5.11	2.80-9.34	3.82	2.22-6.57
Pain	3.77	1.21-11.72	2.76	1.10-6.91
Smoking	3.57	2.04-6.23	2.69	1.65-4.36
Family History Substance Abuse	3.40	1.93-6.00	3.41	2.08-5.60
White	3.17	1.68-6.01	1.48	0.79-2.80
Male	1.94	1.07-3.53	2.37	1.39-4.03
PTSD	1.93	1.09-3.43	1.91	1.14-3.18
IPV and Depression	1.33	0.62-2.87	1.12	0.56-2.28
IPV and No Depression	1.92	0.90-4.10	2.38	1.23-4.61
Depression and No IPV	1.84	0.77-4.39	2.81	1.27-5.75

^{*} Multivariable multinomial logistic regression analyses, Pseudo $R^2 = 0.42$

PDUD = Prescription Drug Use Disorder

SUD = Substance Use Disorder

IPV = Intimate Partner Violence

PTSD = Post-traumatic Stress Disorder

CI=confidence interval

Reference group for IPV and depression interaction is the absence of IPV and depression.

Table 3

Prevalence of Prescription Drug Use Disorder (PDUD) and Other Substance Use Disorder Among Primary Care Patients by Number of Risk Factors* for PDUD and Other SUD (n=597)

Number of Risk Factors*	Prescription Drug Use Disorder n=110 N (%)	Other Substance Use Disorder n=146 N (%)	No Substance Use Disorder n=341 N (%)
0 (n=9)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	9 (100.0)
1 (n=39)	0 (0.0)	2 (5.1)	37 (94.9)
2 (n=94)	7 (7.5)	6 (6.4)	81 (86.2)
3 (n=106)	10 (9.4)	19 (17.9)	77 (72.6)
4 (n=125)	16 (12.8)	30 (24.0)	79 (63.2)
5 (n=81)	14 (17.3)	32 (39.5)	35 (43.2)
6 (n=80)	32 (40.0)	34 (42.5)	14 (17.5)
7 (n=48)	24 (50.0)	15 (31.2)	9 (18.8)
8 (n=10)	4 (40.0)	6 (60.0)	0 (0.0)
9 (n=5)	3 (60.0)	2 (40.0)	0 (0.0)

^{*}Risk Factors include: time spent in jail, family history of substance use disorder, smoking, white race, male gender, lifetime post-traumatic stress disorder, limiting pain, depression, intimate partner violence

Table 4
Sensitivity and Specificity of Number of Risk Factors* for Prescription Drug Use Disorder (PDUD) (n=451)

Number of Risk Factors*	Sensitivity %	Specificity %
>=1 (n=39)	100.0	<13.5
>=2 (n=94)	100.0	13.5
>=3 (n=106)	93.6	37.2
>=4 (n=125)	84.5	59.8
>=5 (n=81)	70.0	83.0
>=6 (n=80)	57.0	93.3
>=7 (n=48)	28.0	97.4
>=8 (n=15)	6.0	100.0

^{*} Risk Factors include: time spent in jail, family history of substance use disorder, smoking, white race, male gender, lifetime post-traumatic stress disorder, limiting pain, depression, intimate partner violence