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Factors Associated with an Increased Risk of Opioid Misuse Among Patients ...



Factors Associated with an Increased Risk of Opioid Misuse Among Patients with Non-Cancer Pain in Malaysian Pain Clinic Settings

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Abstract This study examined the factors associated with a high risk of

opioid misuse among patients receiving opioid treatment for their non-cancer pain in Malaysian pain clinics. The Screener and Opioid Assessment for Patients with Pain-Revised (SOAPP-R), a validated instrument for predicting the risk of aberrant drugrelated behaviors, were used as a proxy to indicate risk of opioid misuse. Data analysis was stratified into high-risk and low-risk patient groups. Patient factors assessed included pain intensity, pain interference with daily activities, and health-related quality

of life. Prescription opioid exposure was examined via patient medical and prescription records review. Among the 61 patients recruited, 62.3% scored >= 18 on the SOAPP-R, which indicates a high risk for opioid misuse. Factors associated with a high risk of opioid misuse were found to be high level of pain interference with daily activities, poorer mental health, and younger age. High-risk patients were found to be prescribed a lower mean daily opioid dose of <20 mg/day compared to low-risk patients (20-49 mg/day). This highlights the need for further research to distinguish aberrant drug-related behaviors due to inadequate pain management from that of actual prescription opioid misuse among non-cancer pain patients attending pain clinics.

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Author Keywords: Opioid; pain; pain management; non-cancer pain **Keywords Plus:** DRUG-RELATED BEHAVIOR; USE DISORDER; UNITED-STATES; PRESCRIPTION; ABUSE; THERAPY; DEPENDENCE; ADDICTION; HISTORY; VALIDATION

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