Opioid Use Disorder Among Patients with Dorsalgia in the United States

Karan Patel M.D.[1], Tigran Kesayan M.D.[1,2,3]

[1] Department of Neurology [2] Department of Anesthesiology [3] Department of Plastic Surgery

Introduction

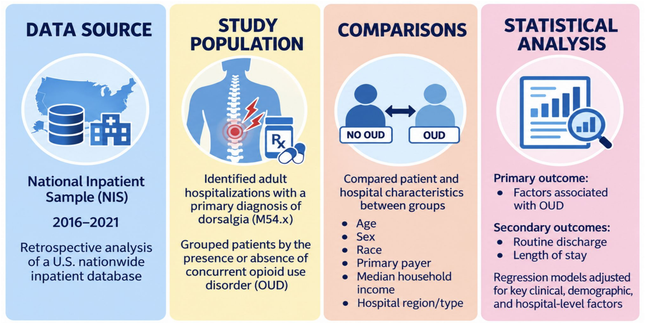


- Dorsalgia is a broad term encompassing pain arising from the cervical, thoracic, lumbar, and sacral regions of the back.
- Comorbid OUD may complicate inpatient pain management, discharge planning, and healthcare resource utilization among patients hospitalized with back pain.
- National patterns of OUD among patients hospitalized with dorsalgia, including associated demographic and clinical factors and their impact on short-term hospital outcomes, remain incompletely characterized.

Research Goal

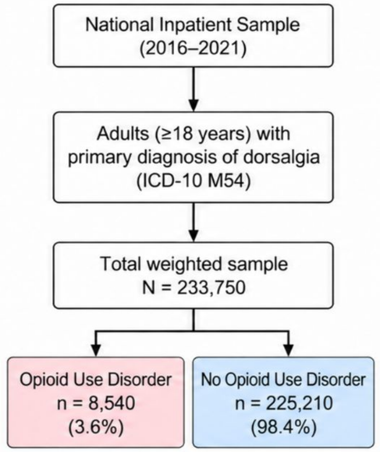
In this analysis, we used the National Inpatient Sample (2016–2021) to identify demographic, clinical, and hospital-level factors associated with opioid use disorder among patients hospitalized with dorsalgia and to evaluate its association with short-term hospital outcomes.

Methods

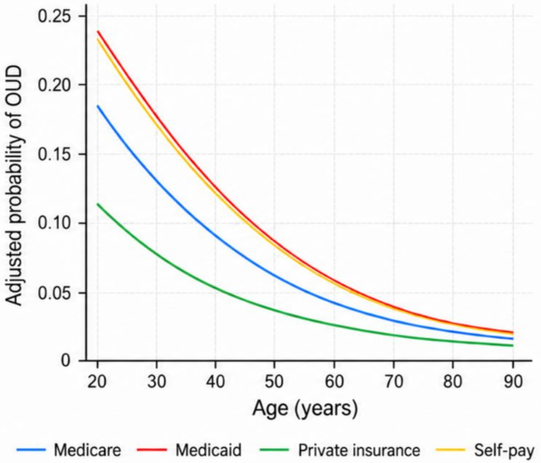


Results

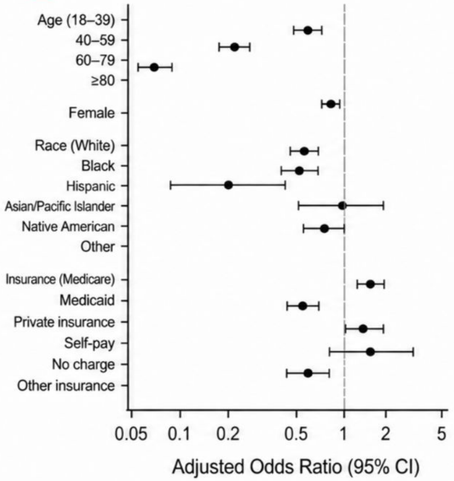
1 Study Population



2 Adjusted Probability of OUD by Age and Insurance



3 Independent Predictors of Opioid Use Disorder



Conclusions

- Among patients hospitalized with dorsalgia, those with comorbid opioid use disorder were younger and more likely to have Medicaid coverage, identifying a distinct high-risk inpatient population.
- After adjustment for key clinical and demographic factors, opioid use disorder was associated with lower odds of routine discharge and a longer hospital length of stay.
- These findings highlight the potential need for more targeted pain management, addiction-focused care, and discharge planning among hospitalized patients with dorsalgia and comorbid opioid use disorder.

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