

Effectiveness of ADFs Opioid Analgesic Products with Properties Intended to Deter Abuse in the Real World

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Do abuse deterrent opioid formulations work?

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- Does the introduction of an opioid analgesic with abuse deterrent properties result in reduced overall abuse of the drug in the community?
- Included opioid analgesics with labelled abuse deterrent properties (hydrocodone, morphine, oxycodone)
- Results categorized using Bradford-Hill criteria.

Bradford-Hill AB. The Environment and Disease: Association or Causation? *Proc Royal Soc Med.* 1965;58:295–300.

• 44 articles containing original data

Hill Factor	Description	
Strength	Effect size positive, ranging from 27% to 90% reduction	
(<u>effect size</u>):	in a measure of abuse.	
Consistency	Strikingly similar results in 3 different countries after	
(<u>reproducibility</u>):	reformulation in 2010 (US), 2012 (Canada), 2014 (Australia)	
Specificity	Variety of comparators used – all significantly different from	
	reformulated oxycodone ER	
Temporality	Reduction in a variety of endpoints after introduction of	
	reformulated oxycodone ER	
Plausibility	FDA Categories 1-3	
Coherence	All results to date are coherent with Category 1-3 studies	
Biological Gradient, Experiment, Analogy: N/A		
Additional Criteria		
Confounding	No plausible alternative explanation for events at 3 different	
and/or Bias	times in 3 different countries	

Hill Factor	Description
Strength (<u>effect</u>	Effect size varied by study, ranging from 27% to 90% reduction in
<u>size</u>):	a measure of abuse.
Consistency	Decrease in measures of abuse was strikingly similar
(<u>reproducibility</u>):	results in 3 different countries after reformulation in
	2010 (US), 2012 (Canada), 2014 (Australia)
Specificity	Variety of comparators used – all significantly different from
	reformulated oxycodone ER
Temporality	Reduction in a variety of endpoints after introduction of
	reformulated oxycodone ER
Plausibility	FDA Categories 1-3
Coherence	All results to date are coherent with Category 1-3 studies

Biological Gradient, Experiment, Analogy: N/A

Additional Criteria

Bias

Confounding and/or No plausible alternative explanation for events at 3 different

times in 3 different countries

Bias

Hill Factor	Description	
Strength (<u>effect</u>	Effect size varied by study, ranging from 27% to 90% reduction in	
<u>size</u>):	a measure of abuse.	
Consistency	Strikingly similar results in 3 different countries after	
(<u>reproducibility</u>):	reformulation in 2010 (US), 2012 (Canada), 2014 (Australia)	
Specificity	Variety of comparator drugs were used – consistently	
	different from reformulated oxycodone ER	
Temporality	Reduction in a variety of endpoints after introduction of	
	reformulated oxycodone ER	
Plausibility	FDA Categories 1-3	
Coherence	All results to date are coherent with Category 1-3 studies	
Biological Gradient, Experiment, Analogy: N/A		
Additional Criteria		
Confounding and/or No plausible alternative explanation for events at 3 different		

times in 3 different countries

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Hill Factor	Description	
Strength (<u>effect</u>	Effect size varied by study, ranging from 27% to 90% reduction in	
<u>size</u>):	a measure of abuse.	
Consistency	Strikingly similar results in 3 different countries after	
(<u>reproducibility</u>):	reformulation in 2010 (US), 2012 (Canada), 2014 (Australia)	
Specificity	Variety of comparators used – all significantly different from	
	reformulated oxycodone ER	
Temporality	Reduction in a variety of endpoints temporally related to	
	introduction of reformulated oxycodone ER	
Plausibility	FDA Categories 1-3	
Coherence	All results to date are coherent with Category 1-3 studies	
Biological Gradient, Experiment, Analogy: N/A		
Additional Criteria		
Confounding and/or	No plausible alternative explanation for events at 3 different	
Bias	times in 3 different countries	

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Hill Factor	Description	
Strength (<u>effect</u>	Effect size varied by study, ranging from 27% to 90% reduction in	
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Consistency	Strikingly similar results in 3 different countries after	
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Specificity	Variety of comparators used – all significantly different from reformulated oxycodone ER	
Temporality	Reduction in a variety of endpoints after introduction of	
	reformulated oxycodone ER	
Plausibility	FDA Categories 1-3	
Coherence	All results to date are coherent with Category 1-3 studies	
Biological Gradient, Experiment, Analogy: N/A		
Additional Criteria		
Confounding	No alternative explanation that plausibly explains similar	
and/or Bias	events at 3 different times in 3 different countries	

Opioid Analgesic Prescriptions Dispensed in the US, April 1, 2009 to June 30, 2015



Time since reformulation

Severtson SG, et al. Drug Alcohol Depend 2016;168:219–229

Opioid Treatment Program, Drugs Used in Past 30 Days, 2009 - 2015

• 115 Substance abuse treatment programs in 37 states



Past Year Nonmedical Use of OxyContin[®], National Survey of Drug Use and Health, 2006 – 2014



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Drug Diversion Program, Drugs Involved in Investigations, 2009 - 2015

• 250 law enforcement investigators in 49 states



What's New Since 2017

- Person-level changes in oxycodone use after the introduction of a tamper-resistant formulation in Australia
 - "The reformulation had a greater impact on opioid access patterns of people less than 65 years of age who were using higher strengths of oxycodone CR."
 - Schaffer et al. CMAJ 2018 March 26;190:E355-62. doi: 10.1503/cmaj.170666
- The effect of a potentially tamper-resistant oxycodone formulation on opioid use and harm: main findings of the National Opioid Medications Abuse Deterrence (NOMAD) study
 - "This formulation of controlled-release oxycodone reduced tampering with pharmaceutical opioids among people who inject drugs, but did not affect population-level opioid use or harm."
 - Larance et al. Lancet Psychiat. http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/S2215-0366(18)30003-8

Why Are ADFs Opposed in the United States?

- There are "no data" to show opioid analgesic products with properties intended to deter abuse are effective
- They can't stop oral abuse
- They don't change overall or even API prescription drug abuse
- They may "force" an OUD patient to use other opioids like heroin
- They may encourage doctors to prescribe ER opioids unwisely
- They are expensive
- Most critiques are written by authors with undeclared COI, usually financial (especially PBMs, insurers), but also philosophical (no one should be treated with an opioid)

Automotive Safety as a Model for Prescription Opioids



Automotive Safety as a Model for Prescription Opioids, 1998 vs 2015 Toyota



Progression of Prescription Opioid Abuse



A Prescriber Needs Several Tools to Treat Chronic Pain



Carter Introduces Legislation to Remove Barriers to Abuse Deterrent Opioids Washington, April 23, 2018

Congressman Earl L. "Buddy" Carter (R-Ga.) introduced legislation today to remove barriers to abuse deterrent opioids.

Abuse deterrent formulations (ADFs) represent a breakthrough technology that helps prevent the crushing, snorting, and injection of painkillers.

Currently, many prescription drug plans present access barriers for chronic pain patients to ADFs including cost-sharing tiers, fail-first requirements, and prior authorization requirements. Instead of receiving ADFs, often patients are limited to using traditional opioids that can be easily diverted, crushed, snorted, and injected.

Carter's legislation, the *Abuse Deterrent Access Act of 2018*, directs the Secretary of Health and Human Services to conduct a study on barriers to accessing abuse deterrent opioid formulations for chronic pain patients enrolled in Medicare.

...As the only pharmacist in Congress, I believe we must find solutions to combat this crisis that prevent opioid diversion while maintaining legitimate patient access for those who truly need it. ADFs ensure those who legitimately need pain medication are able to access it while helping to prevent misuse."

Original cosponsors include Representatives Dave Loebsack (D-Ia.) and Tom Reed (R-Ny.).

End

