

306. Trends over time in population rates of intentional misuse and self-harm mentions with buprenorphine, methadone, and oxycodone as reported to poison centres in Germany, Italy and the UK

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Objective: To determine if population rates of misuse/abuse/diversion and self-harm exposures as reported to poison centres (PCs) are increasing for buprenorphine, methadone, and oxycodone in Germany, Italy, and the UK.

Methods: Intentional human exposures to buprenorphine, methadone, and oxycodone reported to participating Global Toxicosurveillance Network (GTNet) PCs were examined. Exposures between 2007 and 2013 were obtained from centres in Milan, Italy and Göttingen, Germany, and from centres in the UK between 2008 and 2013. UK PCs provide medical management assistance to health care providers only, while services in Milan and Göttingen are also available to the public. Defined regions of call coverage exist in Germany and the UK, while the Milan center handles 65-70% of all calls in Italy. Rates are expressed as the number of exposures per 100,000 population separately for those with an exposure reason of misuse/abuse/diversion versus self-harm.

Results: See Table 1. In Germany, increasing rates were seen for oxycodone self-harm, and misuse/abuse/diversion of oxycodone and methadone. Misuse/abuse/diversion rates were higher for methadone and buprenorphine than self-harm rates, while oxycodone self-harm rates were higher than misuse/abuse/diversion

rates. In Italy, increasing rates were noted for oxycodone self-harm and misuse/abuse/diversion. Rates for misuse/abuse/diversion were higher for methadone and buprenorphine than self-harm rates, while oxycodone self-harm rates were higher than misuse/abuse/diversion rates. In the UK, declining rates were seen for oxycodone and methadone self-harm, while no rates were increasing. Rates of self-harm exceeded rates of misuse/abuse/diversion.

Conclusion: As in the USA, increasing rates of reports to PCs of self-harm and misuse/abuse/diversion were evident for some prescription opioids in Germany and Italy. In the UK, where PC reports are only from health care providers, no increases in trends were evident. Increasing rates of self-harm often exceeded rates of misuse/abuse/diversion and may represent an opportunity for public health interventions.

307. An Internet snapshot study to investigate the cost and availability of the novel benzodiazepines diclazepam, flubromazepam and pyrazolam in the UK

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Objective: There has been increasing concern that non-prescription benzodiazepines are being sold as novel psychoactive substances (NPS) in Europe; diclazepam, flubromazepam and pyrazolam have been detected in Europe since 2013. There is limited data available on the prevalence of use or availability of these drugs. The aim of this study was to determine the availability of these novel benzodiazepines in the UK from Internet NPS suppliers.

Methods: The study was undertaken in November 2014 in English using European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction (EMCDDA) Snapshot Methodology.¹ Three Internet search engines (google.co.uk, uk.yahoo.com and ask.com.uk) were

Table 1. Poison centre intentional exposure rates per 100,000 populations in Germany, Italy and the UK.

Country	Drug Class	Exposure reason	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Germany	Buprenorphine	Misuse/Abuse/Diversion	0.0097	0.0122	0.0098	0.0049	0.0150	0.0199	0.0137
		Self-harm	0.0061	0.0037	0.0098	0.0122	0.0062	0.0112	0.0062
	Methadone	Misuse/Abuse/Diversion	0.0316	0.0256	0.0306	0.0281	0.0424	0.0485	0.0509
		Self-harm	0.0158	0.0146	0.0159	0.0245	0.0262	0.0336	0.0124
	Oxycodone	Misuse/Abuse /Diversion	0.0012	0.0024	0.0012	0.0049	0.0062	0.0087	0.0025
		Self-harm	0.0231	0.0305	0.0330	0.0416	0.0411	0.0522	0.0596
Italy	Buprenorphine	Misuse/Abuse/Diversion	0.0635	0.0716	0.0288	0.0203	0.0051	0.0236	0.0168
		Self-harm	0.0103	0.0239	0.0153	0.0068	0.0051	0.0017	0.0101
	Methadone	Misuse/Abuse/Diversion	0.0996	0.1057	0.0593	0.0997	0.0438	0.0471	0.0787
		Self-harm	0.0550	0.0477	0.0797	0.0743	0.0303	0.0337	0.0436
	Oxycodone	Misuse/Abuse/Diversion	0.0000	0.0000	0.0169	0.0101	0.0034	0.0101	0.0184
		Self-harm	0.0069	0.0068	0.0407	0.0558	0.0219	0.0421	0.0385
UK	Buprenorphine	Misuse/Abuse/Diversion	NA	0.0146	0.0144	0.0111	0.0047	0.0126	0.0094
		Self-harm	NA	0.0421	0.0241	0.0287	0.0237	0.0126	0.0265
	Methadone	Misuse/Abuse/Diversion	NA	0.0162	0.0257	0.0191	0.0221	0.0094	0.0109
		Self-harm	NA	0.0583	0.0530	0.0446	0.0221	0.0267	0.0156
	Oxycodone	Misuse/Abuse/Diversion	NA	0.0032	0.0000	0.0032	0.0032	0.0016	0.0031
		Self-harm	NA	0.0291	0.0337	0.0414	0.0221	0.0235	0.0203

NA = not available.