

Peer-Reviewed Study Supports NarxCare as Effective Patient Screening Solution for Opioid Risk

NarxCare® is a platform that provides a set of tools to help prescribers and dispensers evaluate government regulated and managed controlled substance data from prescription drug monitoring programs (PDMPs). NarxCare automatically analyzes a patient's PDMP data and provides interactive visualizations of usage patterns of opioids, sedatives, and stimulants and risk scores to help identify potential risk indicators.

In a recent independent, peer-reviewed study conducted through the National Institute on Drug Abuse's (NIDA) National Drug Abuse Treatment Clinical Trials Network (CTN) and funded by the National Institutes of Health's (NIH) HEAL Initiative, **NarxCare was concluded to be an effective "initial universal prescription opioid-risk screener."** The study evaluated the validity of the Narx Score as a clinical measure of potential opioid misuse via researchers' assessment of NarxCare risk thresholds relative to the "gold standard" World Health Organization Alcohol, Smoking, and Substance Involvement Screening Test (WHO ASSIST).

Overview

NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS: 1,523

Methods: Researchers assessed participants who were picking up their prescribed opioids from 19 Kroger community pharmacies located in urban and rural Ohio and Indiana.

The study used Narx Scores to divide participants into three groups representing their risk level – low-, moderate-, and high-risk for opioid misuse. The thresholds proved clinically useful as a universal screen to advise providers on next steps with the patient, such as further review of the data or additional screening of the patient.





Conclusion

The study found NarxCare provides prescribers and dispensers with **clinical decision support to assess a patient's vulnerability to opioid use disorder and misuse.**

Clinician users should use NarxCare and the PDMP to support their clinical decisions, not displace them. Pharmacists and physicians can use the thresholds as calls-to-action to further review details in the patient's prescription history in conjunction with other relevant patient health information as they attend to the patients.

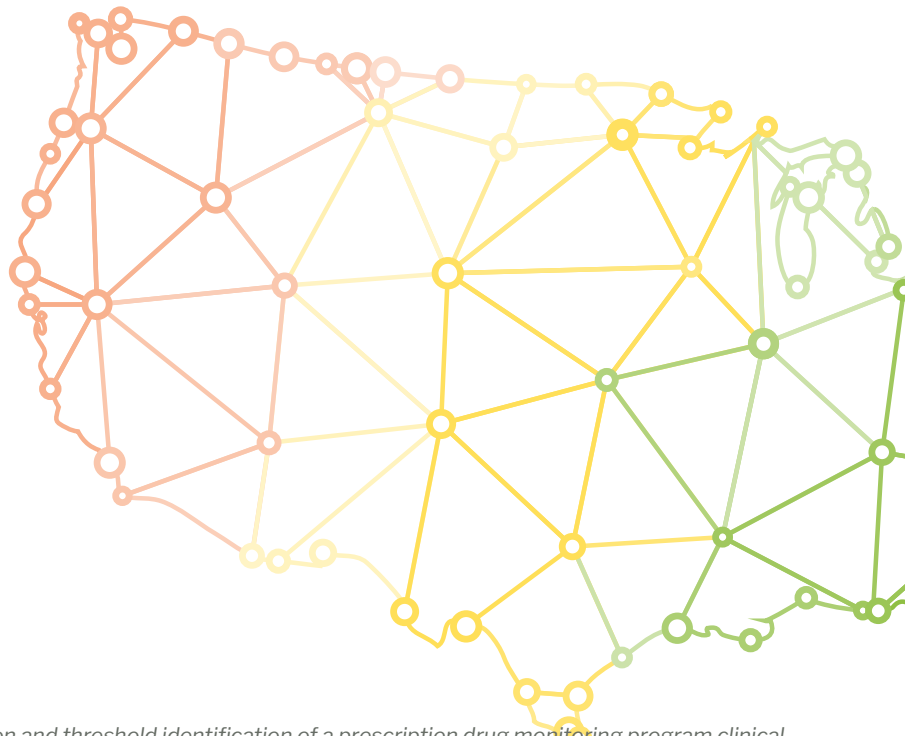
“Prescription Drug Monitoring Programs (PDMPs) are critical for pharmacists and clinicians to identify risk prescription medication use, but before our study, the association between the Narx Score and other indicators of opioid use or risk had not been externally evaluated. Our research shows that Bamboo Health's NarxCare metric is a useful screening tool for prescribers to determine whether a patient is at risk for opioid misuse.”

-Dr. Gerald Cochran

*Associate Professor of Internal Medicine
Director of Research for the Program on Addiction
Research, Clinical Care, Knowledge, and Advocacy
Division of Epidemiology
University of Utah School of Medicine*

Pharmacists and clinicians use NarxCare scores as indicators to further review details in the patient's prescription history as they attend to the patient. NarxCare scores and reports are intended to aid, not replace, medical decision-making. None of the information presented should be used as sole justification for providing or refusing to provide medications.

To learn more about this solution, visit our [NarxCare page](#).



Source:

Cochran, G., Brown, J., Yu, Z. et al. (2021, September 24). Validation and threshold identification of a prescription drug monitoring program clinical opioid risk metric with the who alcohol, smoking, and Substance Involvement Screening Test. Drug and Alcohol Dependence. Retrieved July 27, 2022, from <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S0376871621005627>

