Reviewer's report

Title: Benzodiazepine Use and Misuse Among Patients in a Methadone Program

Version: 3 Date: 26 April 2011

Reviewer: Stephen Fitzgerald Austin

Reviewer's report:

Reviewer's Report

BMC Psychiatry: Benzodiazepine use and misuse among patients in a methadone program

The article describes the self-reported use of benzodiazepines from clients enrolled in a methadone program. The data presented is descriptive using a self selected sample that completed a self report questionnaire on their use of benzodiazepines.

The authors are clear in addressing the four aims of the study (estimate prevalence of BZD use and misuse in methadone program, determine main reasons for BZD use/misuse, examine characteristics of BZD users, and assess proportion of BZD users are willing to engage in treatment) and noting the study's limitations.

This descriptive study provides interesting information regarding benzodiazepines use/misuse within this population. In particular, the data indicating the number of participants that commence use of benzodiazepines after entering the program is worthy of further discussion.

Minor Essential Revisions - None

Suggestions for grammatical revisions- The grammar is an acceptable standard.

Discretionary Revisions

The authors compare demographics of those participants that completed the questionnaire (n=194) and those that were enrolled with the program and did not complete the questionnaire. It would be interesting to know if these 2 groups differed other parameters such as diagnosis, type/degree of substance abuse or mental health problems (if this information is available).

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

Quality of written English: Acceptable
**Statistical review:** Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.

**Declaration of competing interests:**

'I declare that I have no competing interests'