Al-Based Adherence Prediction for Patients: Leveraging a Mobile Application to Improve Clinical Trials

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Abstract

Introduction. Medication nonadherence is a public health concern and can impact clinical trial data quality. Traditional compliance collection (pill counts, diaries) can be unreliable in central nervous system trials. As such, strategies such as adherence technologies may play a key role in trial outcomes. AiCure, a computer vision-assisted dosing mobile application (app), collects dosing data and connects patients to sites for dosing support. Phone-based computer vision algorithms confirm dosing and transfer videos for artificial intelligence and human review. Boehringer Ingelheim is partnering with AiCure on pilot trials using AiCure adherence data to improve patient retention and clinical trial data quality. Here we report initial findings.

Methods. This pilot used data from two Phase II trials on the efficacy and safety of BI 409306 in people with schizophrenia (NCT03351244) or Attenuated Psychosis Syndrome (NCT03230097). The AiCure mobile app alerted participants to dosing protocols. The dose event was visually confirmed, providing sites a real-time view of adherence and allowing for targeted outreach and intervention. Adherence data from the first 2 weeks generated quantitative, machine-learning models to predict the individual adherence over the trial. Predictive modeling explored different monitoring periods (7-, 10-, and 14-day) and adherence cutoff points (0.8, 0.7, 0.6).

Results. Initial AiCure assessment identified 43% of participants in NCT03351244 as ≤80% compliant (definition of compliance >80% compliant). Variance in adherence rates between electronic case report forms (eCRF; 78%) and AiCure (26%) data was also observed in the highly compliant/adherent group in NCT03230097. Using the first 2 weeks of adherence data (both studies combined), a participant’s adherence predicted their average adherence for the remainder of the trial. Observation of a participant’s adherence for the latest 4 weeks predicted the probability of premature dropout from the trial. There were further correlations of lower predicted adherence with actual disposition-based dropouts.

Conclusions. AiCure data provided insights into patient behavior and adherence patterns which would not be available via CRF. Predictive models developed with AiCure adherence data can identify and predict future poor adherers. This creates opportunities to plan interventions and mitigation strategies to improve patient adherence during trials, thereby providing test drugs the best opportunity at proving efficacy.

Funding. No Funding

Patient and Staff Attitudes Toward Clothing Restrictions on a Pediatric Psychiatric Unit

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Abstract

Introduction. Pediatric psychiatric inpatients are among the most vulnerable individuals in society. While the use of seclusion and restraint is well chronicled in the field of research in this population, there is limited literature describing the effects, meaning, and attitudes of mandating the wear of clothing in hospital settings. This research explores the phenomenon of the practice of mandatory wear of hospital-issued clothing and its meaning to patients and the awareness and attitudes of this practice among staff caring for this population. This research aims to improve understanding of the experiences of patients regarding this practice at a large, urban hospital providing care for children using a mixed methods design. A qualitative, descriptive phenomenological analysis was conducted through individual interviews with...
adherent patients \( (N = 5) \) on an inpatient psychiatric unit. Additionally, a cross-sectional self-reported questionnaire examined the awareness and attitudes toward this practice among unit staff \( (N = 41) \). The patients’ attitudes toward clothing restrictions was predominantly negative, noting a lack of self-expression, feeling like a mental health patient, desires to wear one’s personal clothing, and feelings of shame and punishment. Among the staff there was a modest correlation between age, number of years practicing as a health professional, and years practicing in a pediatric setting with feelings of a need for a change in the clothing policy to allow patients to wear their own clothing on admission. Staff age and number of years working at the institution demonstrated a modest correlation between awareness of legal statutes regarding patients’ rights to their own clothing. This research found a readiness among staff to adopt a clothing policy that would permit patients to wear their own clothing on admission, which would improve the negative experiences described among the patients in the sample.

**Funding.** No Funding

### Careful, Women! Is Orgasm Worth the Cost of Your Cerebellum? Flibanserin-Induced Cerebellar Dysfunction

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**Abstract**

**Introduction.** Flibanserin, a serotonin antagonist currently indicated for treatment of female sexual dysfunction disorder, has not heretofore been described to worsen cerebellar function. Such a case is presented.

**Methods.** A 60-year-old woman, 8 months prior to presentation, had an acute onset of fainting and hitting her head into a wall without loss of consciousness. She could not stand up, had left-sided weakness, and vomiting, with garbled, slow speech and severe headache. Findings in the emergency room showed a left cerebellar parenchymal hemorrhage of 3.2 x 3.1 x 2 cm with the epicenter at the dentate nucleus, extending medially towards midline into the cerebellar vermis, with surrounding perilesional edema extending into the middle cerebellar peduncle. Also, 5.2 cm of the hemorrhage extended from the petrous of the tentorium to the cerebellar vermis. Moreover, a ventral left thalamic hemorrhage with subependymal clot at the foramen of Monroe extended into the dependent portion of lateral ventricles without midline shift. Post one month of physical therapy, speech, walking, and coordination improved but she continued to have delayed speech and trouble getting up, with a wide stance.


**Discussion.** The temporal correlation between the use of flibanserin and transient worsening of cerebellar function strongly suggests that this is the causative agent. Since serotonin is essential in cerebellar function, including its action on the cerebellar cortex and deep cerebellar nuclei, it strongly suggests that its action as a serotonin antagonist is the mechanism whereby flibanserin is causing cerebellar symptoms. In those on flibanserin, investigation to detect the presence of cerebellar dysfunction is warranted. Assessment for the presence of cerebellar dysfunction is warranted. For the presence of cerebellar dysfunction in those who are on anti-serotonin drugs, such as cyproheptadine and methysergide, may be worthwhile.

**Funding.** No Funding

### Too Sweet to Eat: Delusional Hypergeusia

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**Abstract**

**Introduction.** Delusional hypergeusia has not heretofore been reported.

**Methods: Case report.** A 62-year-old right-handed woman described a plethora of complaints after exposure to a solvent aroma, including headaches, diffuse weakness, fatigue, hallucinated smells and tastes, burning mouth syndrome, and panic attacks. The apogee of her symptoms was that salty taste was 800% of normal, making food taste disgustingly salty. She was unable to tolerate potato chips, pizza, spaghetti sauce, Coca Cola, root beer, Sprite, 7 Up, and even bottled water. Sugar was also too sweet, 600% of normal, making food taste disgustingly sweet. Foods which were unbearably sweet included cookies, sugar, and breakfast cereals. Sour and bitter were normal.

**Results.** Abnormalities in Neurological Examination: Mental Status Examination: hyperveral, loud, overly inclusive, irritable with pressured speech; disheveled, racing thoughts, and tangential. Motor Examination: Drift Test: right pronator drift with right abductor digitii mini sign. Gait Examination: heel walking with bilateral decreased arm swing. Reflexes: bilateral quadriceps