NATIONAL NETWORK of DEPRESSION CENTERS

Ketamine Interest Group

Meeting Minutes

Thursday, August 20th, 2020 @ 2:00pm ET

Co-Chairs:	Mark Niciu (Iowa)
Attendees:	Paula Bolton (McLean), Jonathan Cole (Cincinnati) Robert Meisner (McLean), Christopher Schneck (CUAnschutz), Subhdeep Virk (OSU)
Regrets:	Adam Kaplin (JHMI)
NNDC:	Diana Burnett

1. Site Ketamine Survey
    a. Results were reviewed with representation from all 17 NNDC member sites.
    b. Noted during the discussion:
        - How many sites do NOT have a ketamine clinic up and running yet?
          9 of 17 (53%) *responded that their site does not have a clinic (Q #3)*
        - One site is doing ORAL ketamine (Dr. Parikh, Michigan); OSU is using IM (Dr. Virk).
        - Some locations outside the network (Denver, northeast) are using ketamine troches (lozenges).
        - Consensus is that Q11 (payer source) is difficult to interpret in graphical format, but easier in tabular form. McLean is finding that BCBS will cover IV ketamine, but at a low reimbursement rate. Other sites are finding that patients are having to pay out of pocket.
        - Eleven of 17 sites provided specific comments regarding the impact of COVID-19 on clinic operations. There were 3 additional notes added to the survey as editorial comments at the end. These will be available and reviewed in detail at the next meeting.
    c. The data will be considered for an NNDC 2020 conference poster or publication in a journal as a brief report or editorial.
2. Janssen REMS notice
    a. Reduced post-infusion monitoring period (2 to 1 hour); Opt-in with the Spravato REMS program
    b. May reduce the number of patients and time spent in a waiting room environment, lowering potential COVID-19 exposure.
    c. OSU is in the process of contacting Janssen to implement this process.
    d. Partners is using G-codes (medication & monitoring) that BCBS has set up, rather than E&M codes. A physician who can bill writes a note each time the patient is seen.

3. Janssen sNDA (supplemental new drug approval)
    a. FDA has approved (03Aug2020) esketamine CIII nasal spray, taken with an oral antidepressant, to treat depressive symptoms in adults with major depressive disorder (MDD) with acute suicidal ideation or behavior.
    b. This sNDA references the ASPIRE 1 & 2 trials by Singh and Canuso. All personality disorder data are disqualified from the studies.
    c. This is a second indication; hence, it must be reviewed by each institution's pharmacy & therapeutics (P&T) committee for a second approval.
        - At OSU, Spravato was previously approved only for outpatient use. It will need to go through P&T again for inpatient use approval.

Next Meeting: Thursday, September 17th, 2020 @ 2pm ET