

Focus of Interview Questions

Patients were asked to comment on their experience with current medication prescription and usage, and the benefits, drawbacks, risks and concerns associated with using LAI antipsychotics. Patients who were unaware of LAI antipsychotics as a treatment option were presented with LAI antipsychotics as a hypothetical treatment, including features, benefits and drawbacks, and were asked to judge LAI antipsychotics relative to their current medications.

Prescribers were asked their medication prescription preferences and their prescription algorithm/decision making process, including any patient-specific factors that impacted their decisions. Psychiatrists were also asked their hypotheses on the perceived low usage of LAI antipsychotics and whether LAI antipsychotic usage should be greater. Prescribers who endorsed more usage were asked for suggested methods to increase usage; those who did not believe that increased usage would be beneficial were asked about the underlying reasons and experiences that led to this conclusion.

Therapists were asked to comment on the psychosocial impact of medications used by patients, and the relative benefits and drawbacks of using LAI antipsychotics compared to oral medications. Therapists were also asked to comment on their role in a patient's medication usage and their impact on patients' medication preferences.

Clinic administrators were asked to comment on the administrative, logistical and financial impact of patient medication prescription and use preferences.

Representatives of insurance companies were asked to comment on the clinical, administrative, and financial rationale behind the decision to either cover or not cover a particular antipsychotic medication. Participants were also asked to specifically comment on their opinions of LAI antipsychotics, and how they compare to oral medications with respect to efficacy, cost and compliance.

Example of Analysis

Question – What do you think are some reasons as to why a patient would not want an injection?

Response – Some folks don't want an injection after their inpatient stay. They don't like the needle, and that is their choice. Some patients may even pretend to be OK with an injection just to get out of the hospital, only to never want to see them again.

Root Cause Analysis and Problem Statement Definition –

- Patients inherently dislike needles, so don't want to use a medication delivery mechanism that involves needles
 - Problem Statement – Patients need to minimize the impact that an inherent fear of needles has on their willingness to try potentially more effective / appropriate medications for their psychosis.