Surveys… What They Say Depends on Who’s Talking
Evaluation of Responders to a Tobacco Treatment Survey
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INTRODUCTION

• Many patients in drug treatment smoke cigarettes
• Many drug treatment facilities do not help their patients to quit smoking
• Drs Richter, Cupertino, Hunt and others conducted a survey of all U.S. drug treatment facilities to see a) who provides tobacco treatment b) what kinds of treatments they provide
• Many facilities did not respond
• A complete survey data set was analyzed to understand which drug treatment facilities answered surveys
• If important kinds of facilities did not respond, we may not have the real picture of what U.S. drug treatment facilities are doing about tobacco

OBJECTIVES

1) To evaluate which kinds of drug treatment facilities completed surveys
2) To propose factors that may have affected their participation

METHODS

• 3586 U.S. facilities were invited to participate in the survey
• 405 (11%) facilities completed surveys
• We have data from a government survey on all 3586 facilities

For this analysis:
• I describe the make-up of these 3586 facilities in terms of facility type, size, ownership, and kinds of treatment provided
• I describe participating facilities according to the same characteristics, and look for how the study sample (405) is different from the whole population of treatment facilities (3586)
• I then think about how differences in the study sample may affect what the survey finds – is the group representative of all facilities in the U.S.?

RESULTS: NON RESPONDERS VS RESPONDERS

Characteristics of U.S. Drug Treatment Facilities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Drug treatment facilities (N=3586)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Responders</td>
<td>11% (405)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Urban</td>
<td>50.3% (1797)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Located in/operated by hospital</td>
<td>9.8% (350)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nicotine replacement</td>
<td>7.8% (272)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Opioid treatment</td>
<td>22.8% (817)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DUI/DWI/other offenders</td>
<td>38.6% (1359)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Program for criminal justice</td>
<td>32% (1060)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Facility Ownership:</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Profit</td>
<td>40.7% (1458)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Non-Profit</td>
<td>47.7% (1709)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government-Owned</td>
<td>11.7% (419)</td>
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DISCUSSION

• Although 38.6% of U.S. facilities provide DUI/DWI treatment --- NONE of the survey responders provide DUI treatment
• Although only 7.8% of U.S. facilities provide nicotine replacement to their patients, --XX% (44%) of the facilities in the study sample provided NRT
• Urban facilities could be underrepresented due to the fact that there was a lower percentage of urban facilities among respondents compared to non-respondents

CONCLUSION

1. Facilities that provided DUI’s are not accounted for because they did not respond—we do not know what kind of tobacco treatment they provide
2. Facilities that already provide tobacco treatment (NRT) were more likely to respond—our survey may over-estimate the amount of treatment offered in facilities across the whole U.S.
3. Facilities that were government owned were less likely to answer surveys than any other kind of ownership

RECOMMENDATIONS

Future studies should focus on DUI/DWI programs, and guidelines should outline their responsibilities for treating tobacco

REFERENCES