IMPACT OF SPECIALTY PHARMACIST INTEGRATION ON TIME TO PIMAVANSERIN MEDICATION ACCESS

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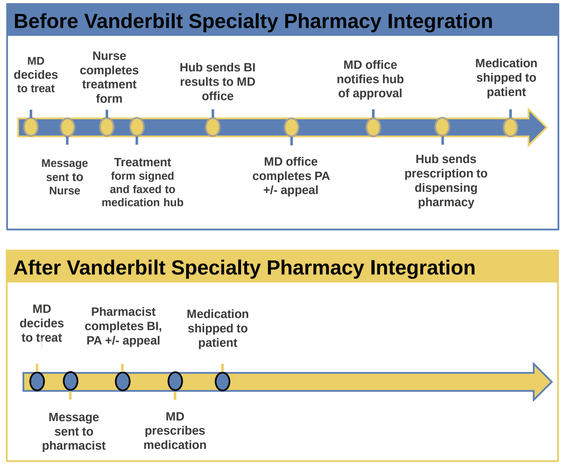
BACKGROUND

- Pimavanserin is the only FDA-approved treatment for Parkinson's Disease-related psychosis.[1]
- Pimavanserin can be difficult to access due to insurance authorization requirements and limited distribution network requirements.
- Safety and efficacy monitoring is needed to ensure adherence and clinical benefit once therapy is initiated.

Objective

Determine the impact of specialty pharmacist integration on time to access for pimavanserin

Figure 1. Clinic Workflow



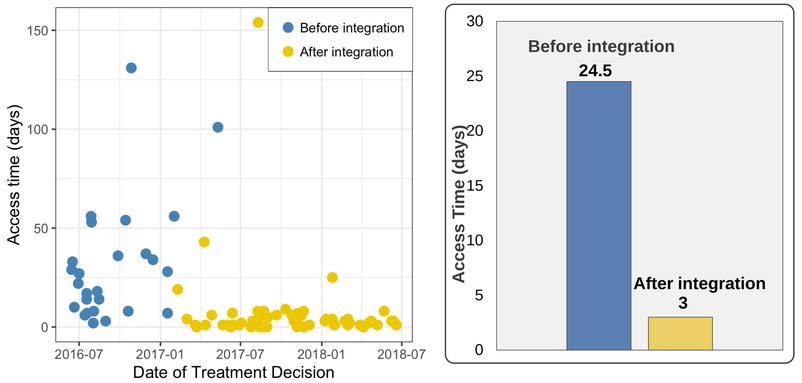
MD=prescribing physician; BI=benefits investigation; PA=prior authorization

RESULTS

Table 1. Sample Demographics

	Before integration % (n) N=33	After integration % (n) N=61
Age, years (mean ± SD)	70.4 ± 7.5	74.9 ± 8.8
Gender (male)	82% (27)	79% (48)
Race (Caucasian)	91% (30)	98% (60)
Insurance		
Commercial	24% (8)	16% (10)
Medicare/Medicaid	76% (25)	84% (51)
Financial assistance		
Yes	N/A	70.5% (43)
No	N/A	14.8% (9)
Data unavailable	N/A	14.8% (9)

Figure 2. Median time from treatment decision to access



21 day average *decrease in time to medication* ***access***

16% increase *in pimavanserin* ***approval***

18% increase *in pimavanserin* ***initiation***

Figure 4. Impact on approval and therapy initiation

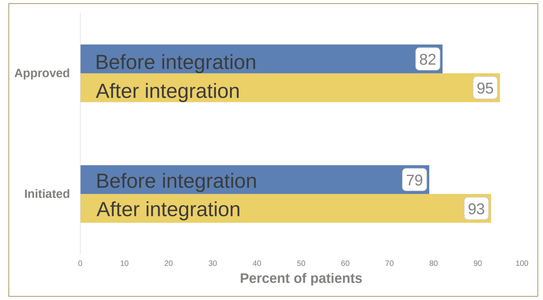


Table 2. Pharmacist Interventions

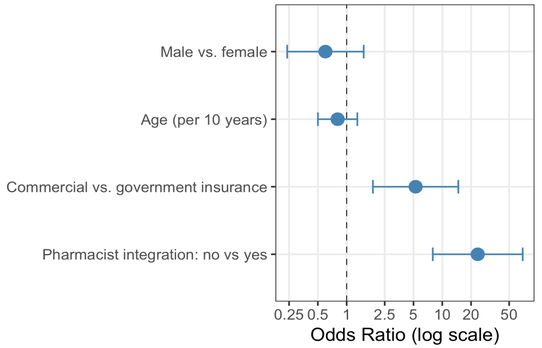
Type of intervention	Number
Insurance approval/financial assistance	135
Medication counseling	58
Coordination of care (Provider/caregiver communication)	57
Patient monitoring	56
Side effect* management	6
Medication adherence	1

*patient-reported side effects included confusion, nausea, peripheral edema, and combative behavior

METHODS

Design	Single-center, retrospective cohort
Sample	Patients prescribed pimavanserin through neurology clinic from May 2016 - July 2018
Primary Outcome	Medication access time, defined as days between treatment decision and insurance approval
Analysis	Univariate analysis and multiple logistic regression to assess factors associated with time to medication access

Figure 3. Factors associated with time to access



- **23-fold increase** in odds of experiencing a longer time to access before integration.
- Government insurance associated with shorter access time.

CONCLUSIONS

- An integrated clinical pharmacist can expedite treatment access and initiation, while also providing monitoring for drug safety and efficacy.
- Further research is needed to assess clinic outcomes associated with faster access to pimavanserin.

References:
1. Nuplazid (pimavanserin) tablets [package insert]. San Diego, CA: Acadia Pharmaceuticals Inc.; April 2016.

Disclosures:
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