**Runner up:**

**Lorazepam prescribing in a Psychiatric Hospital**

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**Background:**

There are no clear guidelines on short term use of Lorazepam for behavioural control apart from rapid tranquilization. There is a need to identify whether there are peaks of administration at patients’ bedtimes which may imply that Nursing Staff are giving it as night sedation instead of for behavioural control.

**Methods:**

Data on Lorazepam prescription, dosage and administration was collected from the drug charts of current inpatients in 4 Wotton Lawn Hospital wards on April 5th (56 patients) and 19th (68 patients). Some patients were assessed twice. The data was collected for a period of 1 week retrospectively from the collection day.

**Results:**

68.5% patients had Lorazepam prescribed, and 51.8% of patients with Lorazepam prescribed received it. There was a definite peak at 22:00pm when the majority of Lorazepam was dispensed. Our impression is that it was most likely used for night sedation.

**Key Messages:**

Too much prn Lorazepam is prescribed on admission. Consultant feedback provided several suggestions for improvements including a modified drug chart. The authors will be meeting the Hospital/Unit managers to discuss findings and are liaising with the Drugs and Therapeutics Committee regarding the development of a guide to prn medication for junior doctors and nurses.