Dentists or Oral Health Care Providers - INTERVIEW

Introduction

RA: Thank you so much for your willingness to participate in this study. We appreciate you taking the time to share your thoughts and experiences with us.

Purpose of the Study

RA: We are interested in interviewing dentists or oral health care providers, to better understand your experience with providing dental care for individuals with OUD. Patients with OUD often want dental treatment, but only a small fraction of them ever seek treatment from a dentist. Patients may have difficulties accessing dental care let alone afford it and may have had negative experiences with dental professionals. The goal of our research is to better understand the factors influencing access to oral health care for individuals with opioid use disorder.

Do you have any questions so far?

Confidentiality and Anonymity

RA: All the questions I ask will concern your personal views and experience. I want to remind you that you don't have to answer any question that makes you feel uncomfortable, we can stop at any time, and everything you will say today will be confidential and will not affect your medical care.

Benefit

RA: There will not be a direct benefit to you for participating in this study. However, we will compensate you $50 for your time.

Permission to Record

RA: This conversation will last no more than 60 minutes, typically much less. With your permission, I will digitally record our conversation. We are doing this with all our interviews to make sure that we don't leave out anything important. Is that ok?

RA: May I begin?

Interview Questions

Demographics/basic addiction info:

First, I will ask you some general questions.

a. What is your date of birth?
b. What race do you identify as?
c. What is your ethnicity (Hispanic or not)?
d. What is your professional role?
e. How long have you been in your field?
f. Do you do any invasive surgical procedures, such as extractions?
g. Please tell me a little about your approach to pain management including the use of opioids:

1. To your knowledge, have you ever treated patients with OUD? Or substance use disorder (SUD) in general?
2. What challenges have you encountered when delivering dental care to those patients with a SUD?
3. Tell me about your training as it relates to treating patients with SUD? →Do you think it was adequate?
4. Do you feel knowledgeable about OUD treatment such as buprenorphine or methadone?
5. Are you aware that the FDA published an advisory about the potential impact of buprenorphine on oral health? → Do you agree or disagree with their advisory?

Barriers to Access:

1. What do you perceive as the barriers or challenges faced by individuals with OUD when attempting to receive oral health care services?
2. How about the barriers and challenges faced by dentists (or oral care providers) in providing dental care to patients with OUD?
3. What, if any, barriers are unique to patients on buprenorphine or methadone?
4. How do you see stigma or discrimination affecting dentists' ability or willingness to care for patients with OUD? → Can you recall instances where stigma has directly impeded a dentists' ability or willingness to care for patients with OUD?

Facilitators to access:

1. What would make it easier or more likely for patients with OUD to access and receive dental treatment, especially those on buprenorphine?
2. Do you think buprenorphine (or methadone) providers should encourage dental treatments or advise patients with OUD on how to better care for their teeth? → Should their regular doctor do so?
3. What do you think of dental care being offered alongside medical treatment by a primary care doctor? What about alongside mental health or addiction treatment?
4. Do you have any other suggestions for how patients with OUD can more easily afford and access dental care?

Conclusions:

Thank you very much for your willingness to take part in this study. Is there anything else you'd like us to know that we didn't ask about?

[arrange compensation]