P03-277 - THE EMEA ADHES SURVEY IN SCHIZOPHRENIA: PSYCHIATRISTS' PERCEPTIONS OF THE EXTENT OF ASSESSMENT AND MANAGEMENT OF PARTIAL AND NON-ADHERENCE TO MEDICATION

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Introduction: Partial or non-adherence to medication is high amongst patients with schizophrenia. Rates of non-adherence of up to 72% have being reported depending on the method used and the patient population. Adherence is essential for optimal long-term patient outcomes in schizophrenia and failure to adhere to medication can have a major impact on the course of illness and treatment outcomes.

Objectives: The objective of the EMEA (Europe, Middle east and Africa) ADHES survey was to collect psychiatrist's perceptions of the assessment, reasons and management of partial and non-adherence to medication.

Aims: The aim of this poster is to present psychiatrist's perceptions collected in the EMEA ADHES survey.

Methods: The survey was devised to ascertain psychiatrists' preferred methods of assessing adherence, their perceptions of the level of adherence, reasons for non-adherence and on strategies to improve adherence.

Results: Psychiatrists estimated that during the previous month more than half of their patients (53%) were partially or non-adherent. They estimated that as few as a third of patients who deteriorated after stopping medication was able to attribute this to their non-adherence. 76% of psychiatrists assessed adherence most frequently by asking their patient explicitly. Use of long-acting treatment was the preferred choice to address adherence problems for 62% of respondents.

Discussion: This EMEA-wide survey illustrates that while respondents recognised the relevance and importance of partial and non-adherence to medication, there remains a need for more proactive management of treatment adherence of patients with schizophrenia to reduce the frequency and consequences of relapse.