

Psychiatric treatment discontinuation and its related factors in foreign nationals in Japan and comparison with national statistical data

1. Subjects of the study

Patients who are from foreign countries and received diagnosis and treatment between April 1, 2016 and March 31, 2019 at Department of Psychiatry in three hospitals that participate this study: Toho University Omori Medical Center, Saiseikai Yokohamashi Tobu Hospital, and Kawasaki Municipal Hospital (In the case of minors, to the person with parental authority).

2. Investigative purpose and method

The number of recent foreign residents is increasing and have exceeded 2.5 million according to the statistics of the Ministry of Justice. Half of the foreign residents are in their twenties or thirties and the generation overlaps susceptible age for various mental illnesses. The problem of low usage of support resources appears to be caused by a delay to treat multilingual issue and a lack of cooperation in medical and public health resources. The study protocol had been approved by the Ethics Committee of the Faculty of Medicine, Toho University (A19058), and we investigated the patients' demographic and clinical information on foreign nationals accessing the psychiatric services. The study revealed a high rate of early discontinuation of psychiatric treatment among foreign outpatients (32%), however its cause is unclear. Therefore, we plan to conduct a secondary analysis of the research data. The aim of the secondary analysis is to increase our understanding of early discontinuation of psychiatric treatment among foreign outpatients in Japan.

3. Sample and information used in the survey

General information such as age, sex, spoken language, usage of medical interpreter, and pathway to hospital, and clinical information such as diagnosis and outcomes. The information was anonymized during the past study.

4. Sample and giving information to the outside

Anonymized data locked by password is offered to Department of Neuropsychiatry, Toho University Faculty of Medicine.

5. Research organization

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6. Inquiries

Please contact us when you have a question about the present study. A research plan and related material can be inspected within the range where there is no obstacle in the protection of individual information and the literary property of other people surveyed when you ask.

When patients or patients' deputy do not agree with the usage of patient's information to this survey, please contact us and we will not use the information. Even in that case, the patient never has any disadvantage.

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