

Extended Outpatient Civil Commitment and Treatment Utilization

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SUMMARY. *Objective:* This study considers four hypotheses regarding the impact of extended involuntary outpatient commitment orders on services utilization.

Method: All Victorian Psychiatric Case Register (VPCR) patients who had extended (180+ day) outpatient commitment orders in the nine year study period and a matched treatment compliant comparison group with extended periods of outpatient care (N = 1182), both with at least two years of post-episode experience, were evaluated. Pre/post episode utilization was compared via paired t tests with individuals as their own controls. Logistic and OLS regression as well as repeated measures ANOVA via the GLM SPSS program and post hoc t tests were used to evaluate between group and across time differences.

Results: Extended episodes of care for both groups were associated

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