

Data Trends

From: Data Trends
Sent: Friday, July 16, 2004 12:19 PM
To: Data Trends
Subject: Data Trends> News 088

From the Research and Training Center for Children's Mental Health, Tampa, Florida...

This News brief alerts you to the following article: Warner, L. A., Pottick, K. J., & Mukherjee, A. (2004). Use of psychotropic medication by youths with psychiatric diagnoses in the U.S. mental health system. Brief Reports. *Psychiatric Services*, 55(3), 309-311.

From the abstract: "This study estimated the overall rate of use of psychotropic medications among youths (less than 18 years of age) in the U.S. mental health service system and compared rates of use for youths with a single diagnosis and those with co-occurring diagnoses. Results were based on nationally representative client data from the 1997 Client/Patient Sample Survey. On any given day, about one-third (32.5 percent) of the 559,769 [weighted N] youths in the service system received psychotropic medication. Youths with co-occurring diagnoses were significantly more likely to receive medication than youths with a single diagnosis. Future research on best practices may be most effective if the role of medication in the treatment of single and co-occurring disorders among youths is evaluated."

A breakdown of national estimates of diagnoses and percentages of youth treated with psychotropic medications is included. The article is available from Psychiatric Services at: <http://ps.psychiatryonline.org/>

Data Trends are produced by the Research and Training Center for Children's Mental Health, Louis de la Parte Florida Mental Health Institute, University of South Florida, Tampa. Data Trends are funded by the Center for Mental Health Services, SAMHSA, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. There are two Data Trends products: 1) Summaries (ISSN# 1537-0399), which detail recent, published articles on systems of care for children with emotional and behavioral disabilities and their families, and; 2) News briefs (ISSN# 1537-0402), which highlight related items or events of interest to the field.