

COMPETITIVE PROBLEMS IN THE DRUG INDUSTRY 16705

Throughout almost four years of available data, certain facets of propoxyphene abuse remain relatively constant. According to DAWN ER mentions for propoxyphene, over half of the time, 56 percent, suicide is the motivation behind the incident. Psychic effect accounts for 13 percent; dependence accounts for another 5 percent of the reasons for propoxyphene abuse. In the remaining 26 percent of the cases, DAWN does not record a specific motivation.

According to DAWN ME mentions, the following were recorded as the manner of death:

suicide	44%
accidental (unintentional overdose) - motivation for taking drug unknown	22%
accidental (unintentional overdose) - motivation for taking drug psychic effect or dependence	13%
undetermined	21%

I cannot present to you a profile of a propoxyphene abuser, because there is no clear-cut demographic model. There are a greater number of propoxyphene-related mentions in the 20-29 age range, accounting for 40 percent of all ER mentions and 35 percent of all ME mentions. Women tend to be involved in propoxyphene-related incidents more often than men, representing 59 percent of all ER mentions and 53 percent of all ME mentions. In proportion to their respective