Rising out-of-pocket costs disrupt utilisation of atypical antipsychotics for schizophrenia and bipolar disorder: a whole-population cohort study

Mr Jesse Young

12:30-1:30pm
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Rm 410 Level 4, 207 Bouverie Street, Carlton

In 2005, following an increase in consumer co-payments for medicines subsidised on the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS), many medicines decreased in use. However, use of atypical antipsychotics did not. We aimed to determine whether the 21% PBS co-payment increase in 2005 affected utilisation of atypical antipsychotics restricted for schizophrenia and bipolar disorder in Western Australia. This talk will discuss the evidence of interrupted utilisation of these medicines, how a subset of the study population were particularly affected, along with clinical and policy implications.