

## **RECRUITING PATIENTS FOR FEMALE SEXUAL AROUSAL DISORDER STUDIES.**

Candace S. Brown, PharmD., MSN, University of Tennessee, 3 North Dunlap, Memphis, Tennessee 38163 and Jules T. Mitchel, MBA, Ph.D., Target Health Inc., 305 Madison Avenue, 25<sup>th</sup> Floor, New York, NY 10165.

Subject recruitment in clinical research is a major challenge. The literature shows that reimbursement, accessibility, and study duration influence participation rates. No studies have addressed whether these same factors affect recruiting of women with female sexual arousal disorder (FSAD). Clinic screening may be particularly effective in FSAD, since eligibility requirements demand an extensive knowledge of the participant's clinical status.

Objective. The purpose of this presentation is to describe the efficacy of using reimbursement to recruit women with FSAD into a short noninvasive study in a gynecology clinic.

Design. A university-affiliated obstetrics and gynecology clinic was one of five sites in a multicenter study evaluating the validity of a female sexual dysfunction questionnaire. Women between 21 and 70 years with FSAD and matched controls completed questionnaires on two separate occasions spaced two to four weeks apart. Study completers received \$200.

Results. Twenty subjects (38.4 years) and 20 matched controls (38.6 years) met eligibility criteria and completed the study within 14.9 days. Of those enrolled, only one control withdrew from the study. Clinic patients generated 14 (70%) of subjects and eight (40%) of controls. Staff referrals accounted for six (30%) of subjects and 12 (60%) of controls.

Discussion. Our results suggest screening women in an obstetrics and gynecology clinic, using reimbursement as an incentive, is an efficient recruitment method for women with FSAD. Future reports of recruitment methods in FSAD are needed to provide guidance on time-to-outcome and cost-to-outcome data.

**Key words:** Female Sexual Dysfunction; Recruiting; Clinical Trials; FSAD; Female Sexual Arousal Disorder