## Purdue <br> U N I V E R S I T Y

## Albuterol: Twitter vs FAERS Data

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## Introduction

Albuterol was selected because it is one of the most common drugs prescribed for the treatment of COPD and its symptoms 300 tweets were randomly collected as a sample on 02/20/2017 with tweets dating between 01/01/2017 and 02/20/2017.

## IWitter Data

- $84 / 300$ tweets stated at least 1 adverse effect (28\%)
- 111 adverse events were reported - 20 tweets stated 2 or more adverse events

Top 15 Twitter ADE's Reported

| Event | Number of Events |
| :--- | :--- |
| Tremors | 53 |
| Tachycardia | 17 |
| Insomnia | 11 |
| Euphoria | 9 |
| Restlessness | 7 |
| Nausea/Vomiting | 4 |
| Hypertension | 2 |
| Dyspnea | 1 |
| Irritable | 1 |
| Increased Appetite | 1 |
| Nervousness | 1 |
| Anxiety | 1 |
| Lightheaded | 1 |
| Urinary Frequency | 1 |
| Drug Ineffective | 1 |

## Comparison of Top 15 ADEs Reported Twitter vs. FAERS



## FAERS Data

Of 861 entries on FAERS for Albuterol, there were 2,949 adverse drug events reported.

## Top 15 FAERS ADE's Reported

| Event | Number of <br> Events |
| :--- | :--- |
| Dyspnea | 108 |
| Drug Ineffective | 84 |
| Drug Hypersensitivity | 56 |
| Malaise | 54 |
| Cough | 43 |
| Pain | 34 |
| Wheezing | 32 |
| Chest Pain | 23 |
| Tremor | 21 |
| Headache | 19 |
| Anxiety | 17 |
| Dizziness | 17 |
| Insomnia | 15 |
| Vomiting | 13 |
| Hypertension | 12 |

## Conclusion

- Many of the ADEs reported from FAERs were not reported on Twitter
- In comparing the two data sources, it is interesting that the more reliable data source did not have the most reported Twitter effect ranked higher.
- Due to the limited data collected on Twitter, the percentages varied greatly among the two sources, making it difficult to truly compare the results.

