

Navigating Pain Management during the Opioid Epidemic: Focus Group Findings

David Cameron
Oregon Health & Science University
Department of Family Medicine,
Portland, OR



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Overview

- Purpose
- Current norms and practices
- Focus group findings
- Conclusions
- RESPOND toolkit

Quick Poll:

Should pharmacists be involved in chronic pain management?

Should pharmacists be involved in pain medication safety?



Corresponding Responsibility



Cash payment



**Distant
prescriber**



**High-risk
combinations**



**Early
refills**



**Multiple
pharmacies**

Latest Guidelines for Pharmacists

~~Corresponding Responsibility~~

Monitor for Red Flags

Restrict high-risk medications



**Inappropriate
quantity**



**Early
refills**



**Multiple
pharmacies**

Purpose

- Understand the situation from multiple perspectives
- Collect patient stories
- Reduce ambiguity

Focus Groups

**Pharmacists:
2 groups of 7-12**



**Patients:
3 groups of 4-8**



Focus Group Findings

PHARMACISTS

felt discomfort filling
high-risk prescriptions

PHARMACISTS

wanted to respect the
doctor-patient relationship

PHARMACISTS

wanted to
ensure patient safety

PATIENTS

were concerned about
pharmacists *interfering*

PATIENTS

were concerned about
delays

PATIENTS

felt judgment from
healthcare professionals

Pharmacists
felt *discomfort* filling
high-risk opioid
prescriptions

Patients were
concerned about
pharmacists *interfering*
with their doctor's
treatment plan

Patients were
concerned
about *delays*
getting
their medications

Pharmacists wanted
to *respect*
*the doctor-patient
relationship*

Pharmacists
wanted to
ensure
patient safety

Patients felt *judgment*
from healthcare
professionals and
reduced trust in the
medical system

Quick Poll:

Who has experienced **stigma** or **judgment** due to chronic pain or taking pain medication?

Who feels they are **included in conversations** about their pain medications?



Patient Strategies: **One Doctor**



Patient Strategies: Self-Advocacy

Pharmaceutical benefits - PBS/RPBS
Repeat authorisation
Valid only if the patient/pharmacist or duplicate prescription is attached

Serial no. G M/C: 34199629542 Exp: 30/11/2019
Prescriber no. 780736 Dr KATZ
Patient's name and address: DANIKA SANDERSON, 2/85-87 SEVERN ST, BOX HILL NORTH
Entitlement no. 81286896
Original prescription transcription details: 120 Quetiapine 300mg Tab, Take THREE tablets at night (Quetiapine Sandoz) If needed before 6 Jul 2015
Original prescription details: Date 02 Apr 2015, No. 3426G, authorised
Name and PBS approval pharmacist dispensing: 408725
Number of S
I declare the relating to Patient

Pharmaceutical benefits entitlement no. 3419962954-2
Patient's name Address: Danika Sanderson, Unit 2/85-87 Severn Street, Box Hill North 3129
Date 28/04/2015
PBS RPBS
Safety Net entitlement cardholder (tick appropriate boxes)
Brand substitution not permitted

Pharmaceutical copy
Somac 40mg Tablet
1 Daily
Quantity 30, 5 repeats
1 item printed
Dr Richard Young M.B.B.S.
Pantoprazole 40mg
Turn over for privacy note
197808 22/05/15 \$17.00

Phone: (03) 9465 6443
780736
Patient's Medicare no. AA57788077
Patient's full name: DIUKA SANDERSON
Patient's address: 85-87 SEVERN ST, BOX HILL
Postcode
Entitlement no.
Safety Net entitlement cardholder
Concessional or dependant, RPBS beneficiary or Safety Net concession cardholder
PBS RPBS
Brand substitution not permitted

Handwritten notes:
LiCO3 (LITHIUM)
250 - / 100 / 250
500 - PO
WITH
ALTERNATIVE
675 - PO NORTH
750 - PO NORTH
Date 3.7.15

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PBS08.1319

Patient Strategies: **Peer Support**



Quick Poll:

Who has used one of these strategies?



Conclusions

- Patients should be the central feature in new pain management models



Conclusions

- Improved training for healthcare professionals





Pharmacy PDMP Toolkit Online Course



This program was funded through a grant from the
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**Menu****Notes**

1. Pharmacy PDMP Toolkit Online Course
2. Module 1
3. Module 1 Objectives
4. Drug Overdose: A Public Health Emergency
5. Leading Causes of Injury Deaths
6. Opioid Overdose
7. Opioid Overdose 29,467 opioid-related deaths in 2014
8. Rx Overdose: A Public Health Emergency
9. Opioid Deaths are the Tip of the Iceberg
10. An Iatrogenic Epidemic
11. Opioids in America
12. US Opioid Consumption in Morphine Mg Equivalents per capita (1980-2013)
13. Pharmacology and Pathophysiology of Opioid Use
14. Addiction
15. ABCDEs of Addiction
16. Criteria for Opioid Use Disorder
17. Video: Opioid Addictions are not



< PREV

NEXT >

Based on Your Feedback...

1. Patients are consulted about medication concerns **before** the pharmacist contacts the doctor and/or cancels a prescription.
2. Conversations about pain medication are **judgment free**, and geared toward safety and health.
3. Pharmacists **ask permission** before offering unsolicited information about pain medication safety

References

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Thank you!

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