

Our journey to implement the Opioid Deprescribing Toolkit

STEP 1

Identify and engage with key stakeholders

Activities

 Work with local Prescribing Leads to identify key stakeholders, identify potential challenges to engagement and develop strategies to overcome barriers to engagement.

Resource

Our Stakeholder Matrix

STEP 3

Bringing our stakeholders together

Activities

Work with local Prescribing Leads to refine the list of key stakeholders. Bring the stakeholders together to achieve a collective understanding of the toolkit, identify key individuals motivated to support the change and better understand the challenges to engaging with unrepresented stakeholders.

Resource

Presentation for the online workshop

STEP 5 Evaluation

Activities

- Process evaluation to describe the process of implementing the opioid toolkit in Norfolk and Waveney.
- Review routine data at baseline and post-implementation to evaluate impact on opioid deprescribing.
- Practitioner Survey completed at baseline and post-implementation to evaluate whether the opioid toolkit has been implemented as intended and targeted barriers to opioid deprescribing have been addressed.
- Interviews with stakeholders to explore feasibility and acceptability of the opioid toolkit in practice.

Resource

 Data collection identified by developing our Logic model (data collection underway).

STEP 2

Gap analysis of local resources or services

Activities

- Desk research: Use multiple approaches to identify resources or services, such as, discussion with NHS England and NHS Improvement Medicines Safety team, review examples in the report on Improving chronic pain management by reducing harm from opioids (December 2021), speak to key stakeholders identified in Step 1, speak to other relevant individuals or organisations identified through snowballing techniques, review Opioids Aware website.
- Practitioner Survey to identify elements of the toolkit absent from existing service offer and existing elements that required enhancement to support opioid tapering.

Resources

- Improving Chronic Pain Management by Reducing Harm from Opioids Report 2021 (available on the NHS Future Platform – login required).
- Practitioner Survey sent to primary and secondary care practitioners across NHS Norfolk and Waveney.

STEP 4

Identifying guidelines and developing a pathway

Activities

- Review and refine local guidelines for tapering opioids for non-malignant chronic pain with key stakeholders in primary and secondary care.
- Develop draft pathway based on refined guidelines.
- Engage with stakeholders e.g., by convening task and finish groups to consult stakeholders to review and design a system-wide pathway, develop referral processes and identify or develop resources to support delivery of the pathway.
- Pilot the pathway in a small number of practices and refine as appropriate before system-wide implementation.

Resources

 Our Guideline and Pathway for Tapering Opioids in Non-Malignant Chronic Pain across Norfolk and Waveney

