

NHS Dumfries & Galloway Pilot Project to Scale up HCV Treatment



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BACKGROUND

Scottish Government (SG) plan to eliminate Hepatitis C Virus.

- Directly Acting Treatments (DAAs) available
- Treatment is 8 weeks tablets, taken once daily.
- Treatment is 97.5% effective, safe and tolerable.
- High non-attendance at Hospital based clinic (consultant).
- Patients are People who Inject Drugs (PWIDs).
- Barriers preventing PWIDs accessing hospital clinic include; low income, lack of transport, time, poor self confidence, fear of unknown, homelessness
- Proactive engagement by clinicians wants to take the treatment to the patient's

METHODOLOGY

- Stakeholder engagement; PWIDs, Community Pharmacists, Consultants, Management, Criminal Justice team, Addaction, Addiction Nurses
- Clinical Nurse Specialist mapped patient pathway (Non- Medical Prescriber)
- Collaboration with Specialist Drug and Alcohol Nurse (CMHN)
- Patient incentives agreed and communicated
- Maximised take-up through effective community Unit



- Monday morning clinic created (nurse-led)
- Methadone prescriptions withheld (patient agreement)
- Virtual liaison meetings weekly

WHAT DID OUR PATIENTS SAY?

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- Increase access to curative HCV treatment via Integrated Service
- Improve patients health and wellbeing & maintain patient safety
- Establish organised, collaborative, working
- Meet local Health Board HCV treatment targets
- Support Scottish Government "HCV elimination strategy"
- Reduce ongoing NHS costs

TREATMENT OUTCOMES

D&G Target No of Patients	Actual No of Patients	Success Rate
54	72	140%

Pilot Care Load Patients Treated	Pilot Care Load Patients Completed	Success Rate
40	38	95

Patients Completed Pilot Programme	End of Treatment HCV Negative	Success Rate
38	37	97

LESSONS LEARNED

- If patient is daily dispensed methadone, daily observed hep C treatments was more effective and improved outcomes.
- Adherence support remains critical
- Communication is key to successful outcomes
- Keeping administration simple and straight forward

PATIENT EXPERIENCE QUESTIONNAIRE