

Best Evidence Summaries of Topics in Mental Healthcare

BEST in MH *clinical question-answering service*

Question

“In drug and alcohol services, how effective is having a non-medical prescriber, compared to a medical prescriber, in improving treatment outcomes?”

Clarification of question using PICO structure

Patients: Drug and alcohol services
Intervention: Non-medical prescriber
Comparator: Medical prescriber
Outcome: Improving treatment outcomes

Clinical and research implications

No relevant, high quality research evidence was identified.

What does the evidence say?

Number of included studies/reviews (number of participants)

N/A

Main Findings

N/A

Authors Conclusions

N/A

Reliability of conclusions/Strength of evidence

N/A

What do guidelines say?

Neither NICE nor SIGN guidelines comment on the implementation of non-medical prescribers within drug and alcohol services.

NICE guidelines for medicines adherence (2009, CG76) make the following comments on non-medical prescribers in all areas of healthcare;

“Non-adherence is often a hidden problem. Many patients are reluctant to express doubts and concerns about medicines because they fear that it will displease the healthcare professional. We need better methods for overcoming this problem and promoting honest and open discussions about medicines and adherence. There are an increasing number of non-medical prescribers (such as pharmacists and nurses) This is a key context issue and there are a range of questions relating to patient perspectives on new prescribers and to new and existing prescribers' perceptions and skills. The effects of new prescribers on patient adherence to medicines should be included in any studies designed to evaluate new prescribers.” (pp.22)

Date question received: 12/02/2014

Date searches conducted: 17/02/2014

Date answer completed: 24/02/2014

References

Guidelines

National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (2009) Medicines adherence. Involving patients in decision about prescribed medicines and supporting adherence. CG76. London: National Institute for Health and Care Excellence.

Search Details

Source	Search Strategy	Number of hits	Relevant evidence identified
<i>SRs and Guidelines</i>			
NICE	(*medical OR nurse) prescriber	235	0
DARE	1 (prescrib*):TI 108 Delete 2 (medication):TI 260 Delete 3 (profession* adj6 (medicat* OR medicine*)) 65 Delete 4 #1 OR #2 OR #3 423 Delete		
<i>Primary studies</i>			
CENTRAL	#1 "nurse prescrib*" 16 #2 "non medical prescrib*" 2 #3 "specialist nurse prescrib*" 1 #4 "nurse specialist" 264 #5 MeSH descriptor: [Drug Prescriptions] explode all trees577 #6 nurs* 24363 #7 #5 and #6 55 #8 pharmacist 2420 #9 "allied health professional*" 87 #10 psychologist 1245 #11 #8 or #9 or #10 3634 #12 #5 and #11 89 #13 #4 and #5 0 #14 #1 or #2 or #3 or #4 or #7 #12 298 #15 "mental health service*" 1753 #16 "mental health care" 447 #17 "mental disorder*" 4700 #18 "drug and alcohol service*" 17		

	<p>#19 MeSH descriptor: [Mental Health Services] explode all trees 4117</p> <p>#20 MeSH descriptor: [Substance Abuse Treatment Centers] explode all trees 313</p> <p>#21 #15 or #16 or #17 or #18 or #19 or #20 9309</p> <p>#22 "substance abuse treatment" 1082</p> <p>#23 #21 or #22 9914</p> <p>#24 #23 and #14 28</p> <p>Central only 5</p>		
PsycINFO	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. PsycINFO; NURSES/ AND "PRESCRIBING (DRUGS)"/; 93 results. 2. PsycINFO; "non medical prescrib*".ti,ab; 22 results. 3. PsycINFO; "nurse prescrib*".ti,ab; 104 results. 5. PsycINFO; (nurse adj3 prescrib*).ti,ab; 134 results. 6. PsycINFO; "supplementary prescrib*".ti,ab; 34 results. 7. PsycINFO; (nurse adj3 specialist).ti,ab; 351 results. 8. PsycINFO; prescrib*.ti,ab; 20327 results. 9. PsycINFO; "allied health professional*".ti,ab; 401 results. 10. PsycINFO; psychologist.ti,ab; 19545 results. 11. PsycINFO; pharmacist.ti,ab; 746 results. 12. PsycINFO; 9 OR 10 OR 11; 20679 results. 13. PsycINFO; 8 AND 12; 290 results. 14. PsycINFO; 7 AND 8; 19 results. 15. PsycINFO; 1 OR 2 OR 3 OR 5 OR 6 OR 13 OR 14; 479 results. 16. PsycINFO; exp MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES/; 32117 results. 17. PsycINFO; DRUG REHABILITATION/; 17555 results. 18. PsycINFO; "mental health care".ti,ab; 8191 results. 	4	

	<p>19. PsycINFO; "drug and alcohol service*".ti,ab; 72 results.</p> <p>20. PsycINFO; exp DRUG ABUSE/; 85617 results.</p> <p>21. PsycINFO; 16 OR 17 OR 18 OR 19 OR 20; 124587 results.</p> <p>22. PsycINFO; 15 AND 21; 50 results.</p> <p>23. PsycINFO; CLINICAL TRIALS/; 7311 results.</p> <p>24. PsycINFO; random*.ti,ab; 126306 results.</p> <p>25. PsycINFO; groups.ti,ab; 359721 results.</p> <p>26. PsycINFO; (double adj3 blind).ti,ab; 17598 results.</p> <p>27. PsycINFO; (single adj3 blind).ti,ab; 1369 results.</p> <p>28. PsycINFO; EXPERIMENTAL DESIGN/; 8935 results.</p> <p>29. PsycINFO; controlled.ti,ab; 78687 results.</p> <p>30. PsycINFO; (clinical adj3 study).ti,ab; 7735 results.</p> <p>31. PsycINFO; trial.ti,ab; 66561 results.</p> <p>32. PsycINFO; "treatment outcome clinical trial".md; 26003 results.</p> <p>33. PsycINFO; 23 OR 24 OR 25 OR 26 OR 27 OR 28 OR 29 OR 30 OR 31 OR 32; 556105 results.</p> <p>34. PsycINFO; 22 AND 33; 4 results.</p>		
Embase	<p>40. EMBASE; "non medical prescrib*".ti,ab; 130 results.</p> <p>41. EMBASE; "nurse prescrib*".ti,ab; 538 results.</p> <p>42. EMBASE; (nurse adj3 prescrib*).ti,ab; 677 results.</p> <p>43. EMBASE; "supplementary prescrib*".ti,ab; 194 results.</p> <p>44. EMBASE; (nurse adj3 specialist).ti,ab; 3642 results.</p> <p>45. EMBASE; prescrib*.ti,ab; 127558 results.</p> <p>46. EMBASE; "allied health professional*".ti,ab; 1376 results.</p>	14	

<p>47. EMBASE; psychologist.ti,ab; 5590 results.</p> <p>48. EMBASE; pharmacist.ti,ab; 16865 results.</p> <p>49. EMBASE; 46 OR 47 OR 48; 23746 results.</p> <p>50. EMBASE; 45 AND 49; 3167 results.</p> <p>51. EMBASE; 44 AND 45; 154 results.</p> <p>52. EMBASE; 39 OR 40 OR 41 OR 42 OR 43 OR 50 OR 51; 4046 results.</p> <p>53. EMBASE; exp MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES/; 44222 results.</p> <p>54. EMBASE; DRUG REHABILITATION/; 6711 results.</p> <p>55. EMBASE; "mental health care".ti,ab; 8012 results.</p> <p>56. EMBASE; "drug and alcohol service*".ti,ab; 95 results.</p> <p>57. EMBASE; exp DRUG ABUSE/; 59005 results.</p> <p>58. EMBASE; 53 OR 54 OR 55 OR 56 OR 57; 112815 results.</p> <p>59. EMBASE; 52 AND 58; 106 results.</p> <p>60. EMBASE; DRUG PRESCRIPTIONS/ AND NURSE'S ROLE/; 394 results.</p> <p>61. EMBASE; "independent prescrib*".ti,ab; 165 results.</p> <p>62. EMBASE; 52 OR 60 OR 61; 4353 results.</p> <p>63. EMBASE; 58 AND 62; 111 results.</p> <p>64. EMBASE; random*.ti,ab; 885470 results.</p> <p>65. EMBASE; factorial*.ti,ab; 23012 results.</p> <p>66. EMBASE; (crossover* OR cross-over*).ti,ab; 70018 results.</p> <p>67. EMBASE; placebo*.ti,ab; 201942 results.</p> <p>68. EMBASE; (doubl* ADJ blind*).ti,ab; 144517 results.</p> <p>69. EMBASE; (singl* ADJ blind*).ti,ab; 14459 results.</p>		
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	<p>70. EMBASE; assign*.ti,ab; 240569 results.</p> <p>71. EMBASE; allocat*.ti,ab; 83314 results.</p> <p>72. EMBASE; volunteer*.ti,ab; 178421 results.</p> <p>73. EMBASE; CROSSOVER PROCEDURE/; 39960 results.</p> <p>74. EMBASE; DOUBLE BLIND PROCEDURE/; 120573 results.</p> <p>75. EMBASE; RANDOMIZED CONTROLLED TRIAL/; 367720 results.</p> <p>76. EMBASE; SINGLE BLIND PROCEDURE/; 19046 results.</p> <p>77. EMBASE; 64 OR 65 OR 66 OR 67 OR 68 OR 69 OR 70 OR 71 OR 72 OR 73 OR 74 OR 75 OR 76; 1424989 results.</p> <p>78. EMBASE; 63 AND 77; 14 results.</p>		
Medline	<p>1. MEDLINE; NURSES/ AND "PRESCRIBING (DRUGS)"/; 0 results.</p> <p>2. MEDLINE; "non medical prescrib*".ti,ab; 77 results.</p> <p>3. MEDLINE; "nurse prescrib*".ti,ab; 452 results.</p> <p>4. MEDLINE; (nurse adj3 prescrib*).ti,ab; 554 results.</p> <p>5. MEDLINE; "supplementary prescrib*".ti,ab; 75 results.</p> <p>6. MEDLINE; (nurse adj3 specialist).ti,ab; 2572 results.</p> <p>7. MEDLINE; prescrib*.ti,ab; 85802 results.</p> <p>8. MEDLINE; "allied health professional*".ti,ab; 1034 results.</p> <p>9. MEDLINE; psychologist.ti,ab; 3358 results.</p> <p>10. MEDLINE; pharmacist.ti,ab; 8522 results.</p> <p>11. MEDLINE; 8 OR 9 OR 10; 12879 results.</p> <p>12. MEDLINE; 7 AND 11; 1483 results.</p> <p>13. MEDLINE; 6 AND 7; 61 results.</p> <p>14. MEDLINE; 1 OR 2 OR 3 OR 4 OR 5 OR 12 OR 13; 2110 results.</p> <p>15. MEDLINE; exp MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES/; 72638 results.</p>	60	

	<p>16. MEDLINE; DRUG REHABILITATION/; 0 results.</p> <p>17. MEDLINE; "mental health care".ti,ab; 6347 results.</p> <p>18. MEDLINE; "drug and alcohol service*".ti,ab; 61 results.</p> <p>19. MEDLINE; exp DRUG ABUSE/; 219486 results.</p> <p>20. MEDLINE; 15 OR 16 OR 17 OR 18 OR 19; 288975 results.</p> <p>21. MEDLINE; 14 AND 20; 121 results.</p> <p>22. MEDLINE; DRUG PRESCRIPTIONS/ AND NURSE'S ROLE/; 390 results.</p> <p>23. MEDLINE; 14 OR 22; 2348 results.</p> <p>24. MEDLINE; 20 AND 23; 132 results.</p> <p>25. MEDLINE; "randomized controlled trial".pt; 362670 results.</p> <p>26. MEDLINE; "controlled clinical trial".pt; 87530 results.</p> <p>27. MEDLINE; randomized.ab; 283145 results.</p> <p>28. MEDLINE; placebo.ab; 149793 results.</p> <p>29. MEDLINE; "drug therapy".fs; 1661607 results.</p> <p>30. MEDLINE; randomly.ab; 205850 results.</p> <p>31. MEDLINE; trial.ab; 291983 results.</p> <p>32. MEDLINE; groups.ab; 1316613 results.</p> <p>33. MEDLINE; 25 OR 26 OR 27 OR 28 OR 29 OR 30 OR 31 OR 32; 3251800 results.</p> <p>34. MEDLINE; 24 AND 33; 60 results.</p> <p>35. MEDLINE; "independent prescrib*".ti,ab; 82 results.</p> <p>36. MEDLINE; 23 OR 35; 2363 results.</p> <p>37. MEDLINE; 20 AND 36; 132 results.</p> <p>38. MEDLINE; 33 AND 37; 60 results.</p>		
CINAHL	<p>57. CINAHL; NURSES/ AND "PRESCRIBING (DRUGS)"/; 0 results.</p> <p>58. CINAHL; "non medical prescrib*".ti,ab; 154 results.</p> <p>59. CINAHL; "nurse prescrib*".ti,ab; 1251 results.</p>	8	

	<p>60. CINAHL; (nurse adj3 prescrib*).ti,ab; 1421 results.</p> <p>61. CINAHL; "supplementary prescrib*".ti,ab; 137 results.</p> <p>62. CINAHL; (nurse adj3 specialist).ti,ab; 2798 results.</p> <p>63. CINAHL; prescrib*.ti,ab; 19737 results.</p> <p>64. CINAHL; "allied health professional*".ti,ab; 653 results.</p> <p>65. CINAHL; psychologist.ti,ab; 725 results.</p> <p>66. CINAHL; pharmacist.ti,ab; 2067 results.</p> <p>67. CINAHL; 64 OR 65 OR 66; 3430 results.</p> <p>68. CINAHL; 63 AND 67; 340 results.</p> <p>69. CINAHL; 62 AND 63; 59 results.</p> <p>70. CINAHL; 57 OR 58 OR 59 OR 60 OR 61 OR 68 OR 69; 1915 results.</p> <p>71. CINAHL; exp MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES/; 38674 results.</p> <p>72. CINAHL; DRUG REHABILITATION/; 0 results.</p> <p>73. CINAHL; "mental health care".ti,ab; 3116 results.</p> <p>74. CINAHL; "drug and alcohol service*".ti,ab; 43 results.</p> <p>75. CINAHL; exp DRUG ABUSE/; 0 results.</p> <p>76. CINAHL; 71 OR 72 OR 73 OR 74 OR 75; 40110 results.</p> <p>77. CINAHL; 70 AND 76; 53 results.</p> <p>78. CINAHL; "randomized controlled trial".pt; 20733 results.</p> <p>79. CINAHL; "controlled clinical trial".pt; 0 results.</p> <p>80. CINAHL; randomized.ab; 45291 results.</p> <p>81. CINAHL; placebo.ab; 19003 results.</p> <p>82. CINAHL; "drug therapy".fs; 0 results.</p> <p>83. CINAHL; randomly.ab; 28145 results.</p> <p>84. CINAHL; trial.ab; 45451 results.</p> <p>85. CINAHL; groups.ab; 129416 results.</p> <p>86. CINAHL; 78 OR 79 OR 80 OR 81 OR 82 OR 83 OR 84</p>		
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	OR 85; 203408 results. 87. CINAHL; SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT CENTERS/; 0 results. 88. CINAHL; 76 OR 87; 40110 results. 89. CINAHL; 70 AND 88; 53 results. 90. CINAHL; 86 AND 89; 3 results. 91. CINAHL; exp SUBSTANCE USE REHABILITATION PROGRAMS/; 5694 results. 92. CINAHL; exp SUBSTANCE USE DISORDERS/; 70733 results. 93. CINAHL; 71 OR 73 OR 74 OR 91 OR 92; 109954 results. 94. CINAHL; 70 AND 93; 80 results. 95. CINAHL; 86 AND 94; 8 results.		
Summary	NA	NA	

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