

Patient Safety Research Unit

Medicines Safety in Prisons Project

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Outline

- Background to the Patient Safety Research Unit
- Why medicines safety in prisons?
- Medicines Safety in Prisons group – project plan
- Progress to date
- Summary

Patient Safety Research Unit – an introduction

- Brings together patient safety researchers from GMMH and the University
 - Remit covering mental health and prisons
- Two main work streams within the unit:
 - Suicide prevention in those with severe mental health problems and substance misuse – Gillian Haddock, Daniel Pratt
 - Medicines safety – Richard Keers, James Dunlop, Esnath Magola, Joanne Nguyen, Petra Brown and Darren Ashcroft
- Successful application for GMMH Research Capability Funding (RCF) in 2017
 - → January 2018 – December 2019
- Use as foundation for successful grant applications in future
 - Team have extensive experience and success with PINCER intervention

Why medicines safety in prisons?

- Medicines management and optimisation an area of importance for prisons
 - RPS Professional Standards for Optimising Medicines in Secure Environments
- Prisoners cannot always be compared to general population
 - Health needs, e.g. mental illness, substance misuse, infection, CVD risk
 - Specific medication challenges, e.g. in-possession, diversion, abuse
- Prison setting utilises different treatment pathways and health record systems
- Absence of research evidence exploring frequency and nature of medication related problems in prison services
- → bespoke interventions for improvement in this setting

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- Build on existing work and expertise in understanding and improving medicines safety across primary, secondary and specialist settings
- Medicines safety key priority locally with GMHSC, nationally (DoH) and internationally (WHO)
- Focus on prescribing safety indicators (PSIs), which can be described as ‘statements of potentially hazardous prescribing and drug monitoring practice that could place patients at risk of harm.’
- Aim is to identify, develop and implement a suite of PSIs tailored to the prison setting → inform development of improvement interventions, e.g. PINCER

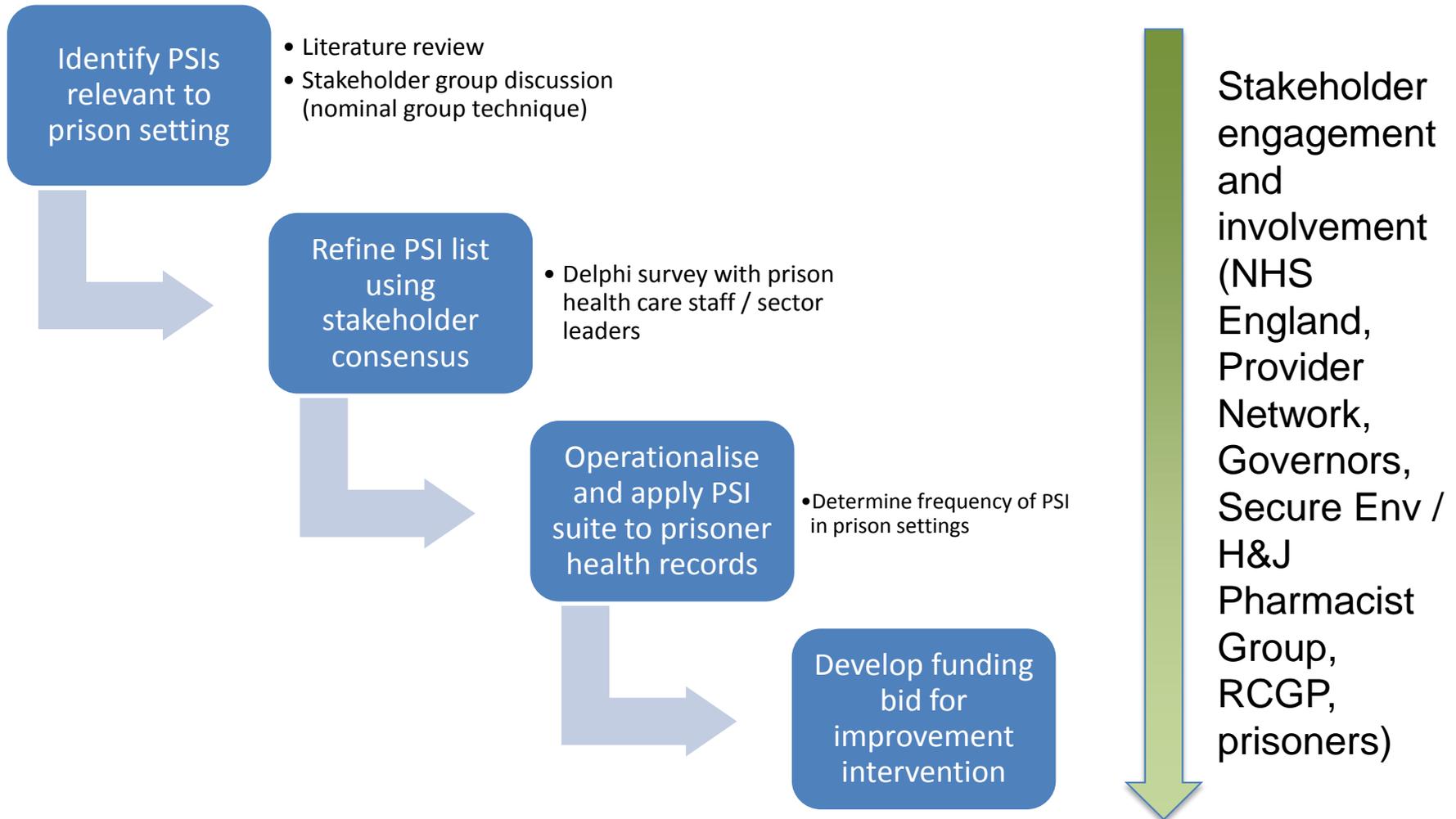
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- Recent BMJ study using electronic primary care (CPRD) data from across England found 5.26% (95% CI 5.21% to 5.30%) of patients were affected by at least one prescribing safety indicator and 11.8% (11.6% to 11.9%) were affected by at least one monitoring indicator

Pharmacist-led information technology intervention for medication errors (PINCER)

- The PINCER cluster randomised trial demonstrated a reduction in the rates of prescribing safety indicators in the intervention group
- 72 practices involved: 480,942 patients. Two study arms
- Significant reduction in asthma/BB, PU with NSAID/no gastro protection, ACE inhibitor / Loop without monitoring in last 15 months (aged 75+)
- PINCER now part of NICE guidelines (<https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ng5>)

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Progress to date

Phase 1: Identify PSIs relevant to the prison setting

- Literature review complete
- Stakeholder group discussion (nominal group technique)
 - Ethics and NOMS approval obtained
 - Recruitment of expert panel complete – session taking place September 2018
 - Health care staff stakeholders mainly from North West region to develop ideas for PSIs relevant to prison setting.
 - Experience/expertise in prescribing and/or medicines safety AND an interest in these topics
 - One off session, lasting up to 3 hours.

Momentum now building for project awareness nationwide

Progress to date

Phase 2: Refine PSIs relevant to the prison setting

- In planning stages, to be informed by phase 1. Start date Autumn 2018
- Survey exercise with 2-4 rounds, involving 20-30 staff stakeholders nationwide. Same criteria for inclusion as nominal group work.
- Participants rate appropriateness of PSIs until consensus reached
- Ranking of PSIs considered 'appropriate' also to be considered

Enables suite of indicators to be prioritised for deployment in phase 3

Crucial role of Secure Environment / H&J Pharmacists Network

- Engagement and support – raising profile, recruitment, dissemination

Summary

- Patient Safety Research Unit aiming to become leading centre of excellence
- Important need for further understanding of medication safety challenges in prison → generation of improvement interventions such as landmark PINCER intervention
- Clear programme of work for Medication Safety in Prisons Project
- Good progress being made – 1st phase underway on schedule
- Engagement and support of Secure Environment / H&J Pharmacists Network pivotal



Many thanks!

**Any questions?
Now for the discussion!**

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