

Interprofessional, Practice-Based Strategies to Improve Chronic Pain Management in Primary Care

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Overview

Opioid Epidemic

Opiate use and abuse has reached epidemic proportions in Arizona, with Arizona among the highest in the nation for mortality and morbidity.

- National trend of increasing opioid sales and dosing¹
- Worsening mortality and morbidity with COVID-19 pandemic
- Arizona among top five for opioid prescribing² and top six for drug overdose mortality nationally³

Chronic pain management for non-terminal pain was identified as a top priority at a statewide interprofessional practice-based research planning conference for the AZ Interprofessional Practice-Based Research Network, an academic-community partnership being developed between University of Arizona and community stakeholders, including clinicians, researchers and administrators.

This poster provides overview of a multi-phase chronic pain practice project that is an opportunity for interprofessional education, practice, research, and community engagement to improve clinical practice and outcomes, as well as preceptor development, and recruitment and retention of rural providers.

Community and Academic Partnering

Partnerships: Promote interprofessional collaboration and partnerships among community clinicians and academic clinicians and researchers to identify and answer locally clinically relevant clinical questions.

Rural recruitment & retention: Participation in a practice-based research network has been shown to be an important recruitment and retention tool for rural primary care providers.⁵

Interprofessional Education & Practice

Interprofessional Telemedicine activity

Best Practices for Chronic Pain Management in Primary Care, Conducted by Rural Health Professions Program Directors

- Focus: evidence-based recommendations and interprofessional collaboration for chronic pain management
- Based on evidence-based guidelines from Arizona Department of Health Services, including
 - Patient Assessment and Monitoring
 - Chronic Pain Agreements
 - Urine Drug Screening
 - AZ CS PMP Controlled Substances Prescription Monitoring Program online prescribing database

- 3 Telemedicine sites across Arizona: Northern Arizona Area Health Education Center (NAHEC)/North Country Healthcare in Flagstaff, University of Arizona College of Medicine in Phoenix, and University of Arizona College of Nursing in Tucson

AHEC Regional Centers



Activity include Regional AHEC collaboration and telemedicine sites across Arizona⁶

- Featured interprofessional, expert speaker panel and facilitated, interprofessional patient case studies
- 57 health professions students registered from across AZ: DO, NP, PA, and PharmD from UA COM, CON, COP, NAU, AT Stills, and Midwestern
- Preceptors invited; CE awarded
- Primary finding: improved knowledge - collaboration with pharmacist in primary care

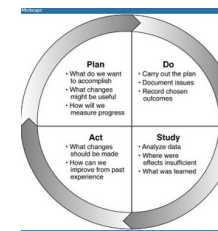
Practice-Based Research & QI Projects

Multi-phase, Interprofessional, Community Partnering Projects:

Opportunity for research or QI

- Evaluation tailored to practices for QI initiatives
- Aggregate data may be combined across sites

PDSA Cycle for QI⁷



Phase I: Development of Clinical Practice Assessment Tool

- Online assessment tool developed and pilot tested by CON DNP student. Focus: knowledge, practice patterns and system and provider level barriers for evidence-based care

Phase II: Implementation

- Data collection at clinical sites across Arizona
- Opportunity for interprofessional health profession student projects for each clinical site (local and aggregate data analysis), and
- Collaboration between academic and clinical sites

Phase III: Dissemination

- Results and recommendations disseminated back to clinical sites

References available upon request