

Distributing Take Home Naloxone via Sydney Medically Supervised Injecting Centre (MSIC) – where to from here?

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Agenda

- Who is MSIC?
- What we did at MSIC
- Lessons learnt
- What are the barriers in Australia?
- Call to action



Who is MSIC?

- A pragmatic harm reduction health service
- First in the English speaking world, opened in 2001
- Continuous operation for 15 years
- Only Supervised Injecting Facility in Southern Hemisphere



SYDNEY MSIC FAST FACTS

MSIC has supervised more than **930,000 injections** and managed **5,925 overdoses** without a single death.

There have been **ZERO fatalities** onsite since MSIC opened.

Every year we make contact with **2,500 people** who are at high risk of OD.



What did we do?

Launch of MSIC take-home naloxone Jan 2015

Developed the Brief Intervention

MOU with local pharmacy

Created Naloxone Packs

No barrier approach to replacement



Impact of the Project

- All MSIC staff trained in the brief intervention
- Flexibility in delivery was key
- Fastest rate of training of clients in the country!
- Brief intervention takes between 5 to 10 minutes.
- 90 clients (+10) trained and provided naloxone packs
- ~13 OD reversals recorded



Lessons learnt

- We made it core business
- Quick
- Flexible
- All staff can do it
- No appointment
- No cost to client
- Flexible prescriber



What are the barriers in Australia?

- Prescription
 - Somewhat reduced with impending scheduling change
- Dispensing
 - Still an issue even with scheduling change
- Cost



Case study

- David
- 37 yo
- IDU 18 years
- Indefinitely sanctioned from MSIC for violent behaviour
- Recently released from gaol
- Not on OST
- Was denied access to MSIC
- Client overdoses
- OD witnessed
- Ambulance called



Call to action

- Naloxone should be made **more widely available**, to tackle the high & increasing numbers of fatal opioid overdoses.
- Make THN **core business NOW.**

It's your move!



More from MSIC

MSIC Tours

Free Public tours of MSIC every third Tuesday at 4.45pm.
Call 02 9360 1191 to book one in



Training at MSIC

Identification and Management of Opioid Overdose (1/2 day)
Safer Injecting Workshop (full day)



For more info, cost and dates go to our website:
www.sydneymxic.com



KEEP CALM
AND
CARRY
NALOXONE

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