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

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 sanction 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.

**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)
Safet Injecting Workshop (full day)

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