

Promoting sexual health among women on opioid treatment in community pharmacy:

A qualitative study

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Background & Aims

Women on opioid substitution treatment (WRO) are amongst risk populations for STIs and BBVs

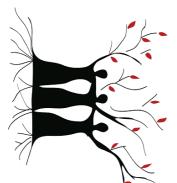
But... why community pharmacists (CPs)?

- Key role for public health (Public Health England)
- Most accessible health care setting (e.g. less time-consuming, location, no need for an appointment, frequency of contact)

Aims

To develop a sexual health service to promote sexual health among WRO in community pharmacies.

- Aim 1. Determine the acceptability of promoting sexual health within community pharmacies in England.
- Aim 2. Identify initial ideas to develop a pharmacy-based sexual health service for WRO.



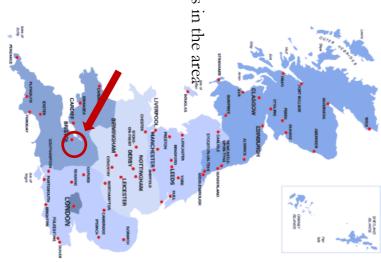
Methods

Semi-structured face-to-face interviews

- 20 WRO [between 25min-1h20min]
- 14 CPs (female n=7; male n=7) [between 30min-1h30min]
- Recruitment areas of Bath, Midsomer Norton and Bristol (England, UK)
- WRO: opportunistic at drug services and a service for sex workers
- CPs: contact superintendent pharmacists, mail study packs, emails and phone calls to pharmacies in the area.

Data collection settings

- WRO: drug services, service for sex workers
- CPs: University, community pharmacy, café
- Ethical approval NHS Ethics: IRAS Id. 20570, REC 16/NW/0432



Methods

- Recorded & transcribed verbatim
- Framework Analysis (Ritchie & Spencer, 2003)
- Case & theme-based approach
- Development of a hierarchical thematic framework
- Flexibly and dynamic approach
- Bottom-up analysis (no theoretical/epistemological approach)
- But..
- It is complex & highly time-consuming!

Results

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Conclusions

Key role of community pharmacists in promoting sexual health among women on opioid

Support for the development of the first pharmacy-based sexual health service for women on opioid treatment in England treatment

- Take into account & address potential barriers
- This study will **inform** the **development** of a **service** to promote the sexual health and well-being of

women on opioid treatment

Acknowledgments

Also to all my lovely participants & to my supervisors © Thank you for listening!





ANY QUESTIONS?