

Scottish Public Health Network (ScotPHN)

**Health Care Needs Assessment of Adult Chronic Pain
Services in Scotland:**

Appendix 4 - Methods for the Corporate Needs Assessment

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Methods for the Corporate Needs Assessment

The Corporate Need Assessment was based on specific interviews. These were conducted with either the clinical lead for chronic pain or with one or more people who could speak as a representative for chronic pain on the behalf of the NHS Board. All Interviews were conducted with at least one person from each NHS Board, either in person, over video conferencing or over the telephone. All interviewees were provided with a preliminary interview information sheet (see Box 1 below). Interviews were broadly undertaken using a standard topic guide (see Box 2 below).

The interview was split into two main components discussing how services relate to the four levels of the Scottish Service Model for Chronic Pain and how this has changed since 2014, and enablers and barrier to service change. The 2014 description of services reported in 'NHS Board Local Report Compendium' (53) were used as a baseline to see how services had changed.

Interviewees were provided with the draft service table for their board, to check for accuracy, they could also circulate this to other colleagues to see if there were any elements that had been missed. Interviewees/or their colleagues as appropriate were shown drafted examples from their service to check for accuracy. Service provision was compared and themes were pulled from the interviews and separated into the levels of the Scottish Service Model for Chronic Pain.

Individual board service provision is shown in [appendix 5](#).

Box 1: Chronic Pain Lead interview information sheet

What we are doing

An adult chronic pain health needs assessment is being led by ScotPHN (Scottish Public Health Network). It will involve epidemiological, case study and qualitative (these interviews) components. These will be used to outline current services, identify inequalities and provide recommendations. We recognise that a lot of work has already gone on and is ongoing in relation to chronic pain, and we hope to signpost to that work.

What the interview will involve

An individual from each NHS board, either the Lead for Chronic Pain, or another representative for chronic pain who is able to talk on behalf of the NHS board, is being invited to be interviewed. This interview will cover how things have changed/remained the same in chronic pain services from October 2013 until now; during which time your board should have received some short term additional funding from the Scottish Government.

The Healthcare Improvement Scotland 2014 'where are we now' report gives a lot of information on service provision. A section of this outlining your boards' service provision in October 2013 will be circulated prior to interview, along with the interview topic guide, as a baseline for discussion.

The interview may be audio recorded.

Our expectations of how the information will be disseminated

Dependent on the number of boards able to participate, information will be presented in different ways. Themes will be extracted and discussed in the health needs assessment report, these will feed into our recommendations. Summaries generated from the interview may be published in the appendix. A highlight report will also be created, outlining key findings of the overall health needs assessment.

The health needs assessment report will be hosted on the ScotPHN website. The highlight report will be more widely circulated, including to the National Advisory Committee on Chronic Pain (NACCP) chaired by Gregor Smith. It is expected that this work will also be presented at a number of forums, including the meeting of the Directors of Public Health.

Both the highlight and health needs assessment report will be circulated to you. If we decide to include a summary from the health board in the appendix, this will be circulated to you, to confirm you agree with it or amend any inaccuracies. We would give you at least five working days to confirm this, but if we don't hear back, we will assume you are happy with it.

Thank you for considering being interviewed.

For further information please contact:

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Box 2: Chronic Pain Interview Topic Guide

Date of interview:

Interviewee name:

Interviewee role:

Mention if the interview is being audio recorded.

Examine HIS 2014 table – how has this changed in relation to the Chronic Pain Service Model levels.

Level 1: advice about pain, self-management, links with the third sector

Level 2 services: Community based, GP, pharmacy, therapist

Level 3 services: specialist help from chronic pain management service

Level 4 services: highly specialised help

What was the extra Scottish Government money used on? Was this helpful? Have you managed to continue with this? How?

Do you still have a Service Improvement Group (SIG)?

During this time period, what have been enablers for service development?

What have been barriers?

What is your vision for your chronic pain services?

Are there other key documents or initiatives we should signpost readers to? (for example we are already intending to signposting to: third sector (Pain Association, Pain Concern) and key documents (SIGN guidance (23), new pharmacy 'Quality Prescribing for Chronic Pain A Guide for Improvement 2018-2021' (13), and the National Clinical Guideline on the Management of Chronic Pain in Children and Young People).

Is there other data we should be considering? (we have data from third sector, national pharmacy comparators i.e. gabapentinoids DDD by board, waiting times for chronic pain clinic initial appointment)



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