

Nurse-Led Model of Care for a Hepatitis C Clinic within Alcohol and Other Drugs Service.

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Background: Since February 2024 West Moreton Health (WMH) Alcohol and other Drug Services (AODS) Ipswich clinic has been part of The National Australian Hepatitis C Point-of-care Testing Program (HCVPOCT) with the Kirby Institute, UNSW Sydney and the International Centre for Point-of-Care testing at Flinders University. Our aim is to share a successful model of our clinic. Our model has expanded our patient base to reach all of the West Moreton Health District, a large geographical area, as we are the sole service provider in the District. We also have 7 prisons within our catchment.

Argument: Through our model we offer POCT as required and have fibro scanning by Hepatitis QLD once a month. We provide Intake Assessment and counselling. These services are in addition to the 50 clients each author supports. Through our model, testing, treatment and follow-up has become more accessible for individuals and the community.

Outcome: Awarded a grant Better Together Care Funding to support and implement the Multimorbidity Quality Improvement Strategy. Also working with INHSU on a joint Symposium.

Conclusions/Applications:

Within the next 12 months we are hoping to expand the Hep C clinic to include the Mental health unit and rural communities, giving them access to services that maybe limited to them. Also working in collaboration with other services to continue to grow and develop our model of care and create new care pathways.

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