

Practice based/ Service Delivery Abstract Template

Submissions must not exceed 300 words (excluding title & authors), an extra 50 words are given **only** to submissions who answer the optional point. The document **must not** be password protected or saved as read only as this may result in your abstract failing to upload successfully. Use Arial 11 point type only. Please structure your submission using the subheadings below. If the abstract does not fit the headings, please put full abstract beneath introduction and we will remove the headings once submitted.

Title: Medicinal cannabis treatment for people with cannabis use disorder in Australia

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Background: *Cannabis use disorder is the most common SUD globally – following alcohol and nicotine, however we have few effective treatment approaches, and no registered medications for this purpose. There is an emerging evidence base – including several RCTs, demonstrating medicinal cannabis (THC, CBD) products can be safe and effective for the treatment of CUD. There are increasing numbers of patients with CUD being treated with medicinal cannabis in Australia on TGA Special Access Schemes.*

Description of Model of Care/Intervention: *Medicinal cannabis using THC/CBD formulations can be prescribed for the treatment of CUD. This can be either for (a) assistance through cannabis withdrawal; (b) short to medium term abstinence from cannabis (e.g. a 'Nicotine replacement model'); and (c) longer term prescribing of cannabinoids as a harm reduction approach (e.g. a 'methadone maintenance model'). These different clinical interventions will be described.*

Effectiveness/Acceptability/Implementation: *There are growing numbers of Australians with cannabis use disorder being prescribed medicinal cannabis. Medico-legal, regulatory and clinical issues in implementation are examined.*

Conclusion and Next Steps: *The presentation will examine opportunities for the development of clinical guidance and further research opportunities.*

Implications for Practice or Policy (optional): *<Insert text here>Medicinal cannabis has the opportunity to revolutionise treatment of patients with CUD, may have implications of medicinal cannabis industry in Australia, and can inform future regulatory reforms regarding legalisation of cannabis.*

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