

## **An exploration of the patient experience of and attitudes towards Vaporised Nicotine Products as a means to achieve Smoking Cessation in opiate agonist treatment patients.**

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**Introduction / Issues OR Introduction and Aims:** This study aims to explore the attitudes of patients in the HARMONY (Harm Reduction for Opiates, Nicotine and You) study, an open label parallel group RCT, funded by NSW Health, comparing vaporised nicotine to optimal nicotine replacement for current smokers who are receiving opiate-agonist treatment. This qualitative sub-study will explore participants' opinions on the clinical trial and their experience of using vaporised nicotine for smoking cessation.

**Method / Approach OR Design and Methods:** As a substudy of HARMONY, we will provide an opt in system through the main study, targeting those in the vaporised nicotine product treatment group. Phone or face to face interviews will be conducted with prepared questions to ask participants about their experience before, during, and after using vaporised nicotine for smoking cessation.

**Key Findings OR Results:** The sub study will provide important data on participant experience of being prescribed liquid nicotine for smoking cessation. This will include information on their experience and understanding of current anti-vaping public health messages being promoted whilst participating in a clinical trial.

**Discussions and Conclusions:** We aim to understand the patient's experience during the HARMONY study to further improve future studies involving different interventions of smoking cessation and whether these methods can be used in the wider community. This will also provide further research into vaporised nicotine products and its uses, including the likelihood of future patients using it for smoking cessation. Through interviewing patients personally, we can also understand the patient's values and barriers to smoking cessation, and use this to facilitate further specific research.

**Disclosure of Interest Statement:** Adrian Dunlop reports grants from Braeburn/Camurus AB, to conduct clinical studies with buprenorphine products and travel support to Hunter New England Local Health District, which employs A.J.D. He is an honorary investigator on an Individior-funded study of buprenorphine products and has served as an honorary on an advisory board for Mundipharma. The Harmony study is funded by a NSW Health competitive research grant (Translational Research Grant Scheme).