

Reducing Harm from Alcohol: helping Wessex know its numbers



38,000

Members of Soberistas

What was delivered in 2016/17?

- Completion of the work with Soberistas, resulting in two peer articles in high impact journals; and helping Soberistas grow to to 38,000 members. Soberistas is an online support network for people dealing with alcohol addiction
- Launch of regional alcohol admission data (Alcohol-related harm data) assisting commissioners with easy-to-use data to help improve services
- Benchmarking acute admission liver disease (25,000 admissions) data packs (Wessex wide and trust specific) finalised and shared with local lead clinicians, acute trust CEOs and CCGs in August 16. The Wessex-wide data pack has also been shared with the other AHSNs. Data pack being expanded to include data from three remaining acute trusts in Wessex
- Published Alcohol-related Liver Disease (ARLD) Identification and Treatment Toolkit on our website
- Baseline ARLD audit completed at hospitals in Winchester, Basingstoke, Southampton, Isle of Wight; currently being completed in Portsmouth, Salisbury and Bournemouth. Frimley Park and Dorset have also agreed to participate
- Hampshire hospitals as the pilot site, is using local Alcohol Treatment Pathways and completed a follow on audit to help find those patients at-risk of liver disease caused by alcohol. This has shown an increase in the number of patients screened, and therefore an increase in the number of patients accessing treatment
- Drink Informed Kit finalised and sent to acute hospital alcohol services and key community services across Wessex
- Successful workshop with clinicians, commissioners and public health from across Wessex to spread and use local alcohol treatment pathways

What's planned for 2017/18?

- Work with local commissioning groups and key stakeholders within acute Trusts to use alcohol detection and treatment services for patients
- Responding to the results of the baseline audit, find and treat patients with ARLD resulting in reduced morbidity and mortality due to better identification of at-risk patients, improved clinical recording, more accurate coding and integrated pathways.
- Estimated that if patients identified one year earlier, potential savings to the NHS across Wessex **of £10m per annum, or £13.3m per annum if identified two years earlier**
- Spread a 'tried and tested' toolkit to support trusts implementing improved processes for ARLD identification and treatment
- Evaluate new models of initial screening of patients for high alcohol intake, and subsequent referral to alcohol liaison teams (eg by Pharmacy Technicians)



Savings up to £13.3m

Estimated that if patients identified one year earlier, potential cost avoidance across Wessex of £10m per annum, or £13.3m per annum if identified two years earlier