Brief Protocol for Centres

# Brief Overview

This study aims to examine the impact individual, treatment and system level outcomes have on alcohol misuse for those seeking treatment for alcohol.

During the course of this study, your centre will be asked to participate in four data collection points.

* Client baseline survey
* Staff survey
* Key informant survey
* Medical record audit

In addition to these data collection points, your centre will be asked to identify eligible participants, invite eligible participants to take part and maintain log sheets of potential participants.

Your staff will be trained in the study protocols and your centre will be reimbursed for the time required for this study.

# Summary

Objectives:To determine the impact of characteristics of individual clients, the type of clinical treatment provided, and features of the system in which treatment is provided on the number of heavy drinking days in the previous month.

Centre Sample:50 treatment centres across Australia which: (i) provide a ‘professional’ alcohol treatment service to adults (i.e. not peer support programs); (ii) expect to treat at least 50 clients for alcohol as the primary drug of concern in the next 12 months (or approximately 75 episodes). Primary care services (e.g. general practitioners, Aboriginal Medical Services) will be excluded. Services that provide withdrawal only or treatment via telephone or online only will also be excluded. A ‘centre’ is defined as a single location where treatment is provided, not an organisation.

## What clients are eligible to participate?

* Aged 18 years or above
* Presenting for a new episode of outpatient treatment at the service within the last 2 weeks
* Nominate alcohol as their primary drug of concern on this occasion
* Have used alcohol in the last 30 days

Study Duration:6 years (2015-2020)

Client Participation Duration:3 months

Centre Participation Duration: 12 months (Approximately)

# Client Participation

## How many clients are needed?

50-75 clients per centre (3,750 participants in total across all centres)

What will clients be asked to do?

* Complete a survey via iPad (baseline) while in the waiting room
* A follow-up survey via telephone (3 months later)

# What would you be asked to do?

## Client baseline survey

Clinical or administrative staff to:

1. Provide eligible clients with an information sheet and study iPad
2. Ask clients to carefully consider the information sheet and commence the iPad survey if they are willing to participate
3. For non-consenters, record the client’s age and gender
4. Ensure the study iPad remains charged and stored securely

## Staff Survey

Clinic nurses and/or treating physicians and/or case workers directly involved in providing alcohol treatment/care to clients to:

* Complete a brief online survey regarding their work experience and role in providing care for clients

## Key Informant Interview

Clinic director (or delegate) to:

* Participate in a telephone interview to obtain information about the characteristics of the centre (e.g. number of staff)

## Medical Records Audit

Service to:

* Complete a clinical record audit for participating clients to provide details about the treatment provided (approximately 12-24 months later, and only if required)

# Benefits of Participation

The research team will provide:

* Staff training and ongoing support regarding all research protocols
* Summary data for participants at your centre that may assist with quality assurance or presentations at local meetings/conferences
* Centre reimbursement as per schedule below:

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| **TASK** | **RATE** |
| **Phase 1: Client Screening and Admin** | $750 one-off payment |
| **Phase 1: Client Recruitment** | $15 per client recruited  |
| **Phase 2: Staff Survey (15 mins)** | $20 per survey |
| **Phase 2: Key Informant Interview (30 mins)** | $50 per interview |
| **Phase 2: Clinical Record Audits (30 mins)** | $40 per completed audit |
| **TOTAL MAXIMUM REIMBURSEMENT** | **$5,125 (AUD incl. GST)** |