


**RCGP Drug Training Unit & Sex,
Drugs & HIV Task Group
SMMGP & London Drugs Misuse
Training**



*Pooled Experience Day to
develop guidance for primary care
to work with people who use crack
cocaine*

Tuesday 22nd July RCGP



Why are we here?

- Pooled Experience Day
- Bringing together:
 - Experts in working with crack users
 - Experts in primary care
 - Experts in using crack
- To develop guidance for primary care:
 - Not a training day



Why do we need this guidance?

- Request 7th RCGP Management of Drug Users in General Practice for training in 2002
- Two training days for primary day in January 2003 (further 4 planned in Autumn)
- Showed we needed some guidance for primary care



How are we going to do it?

- Successful model we used for buprenorphine guidance
 - Started with day involving key players to decide what the guidance should include
 - Core group with key editor and key writer
 - All delegates to the day asked to comment + NEAG, mentors, Alliance and others
 - All felt part of 'their guidance'



Why are we here?

- To begin the process for developing guidance for primary care to work with people who use crack cocaine
- Lots we can offer in primary care
- *Not a training day*



Is crack / cocaine different?

- Lots that we can do / offer
- Use our skills in primary care – sometimes forget!
- No ‘convenient’ substitute / replacement drug
- Establishment of harm reduction with crack
- Most (all?) shared care schemes only include opioids



Barriers

- Image of crack users – historical, media, political
- Crack much more attached to the criminal justice system
- Harm reduction not generally / getting more accepted with crack
- Service barriers: ‘can’t do anything’ ‘violent group’
- User barriers: ‘nothing to offer’ ‘don’t understand’ ‘not set up to deal with crack’ ‘OK for heroin – nothing to offer for crack’



What can offer in primary care?

- Understanding
- Assessment
- Advice and information
- On-going care



The process today

- Short presentations to raise questions, develop discussion
- Table working on specific areas
- To formulate what the guidance should say
- Feedback sections on new points, information to share



The process post today

- Monique and Chris to develop 1st draft
- Pass past core group (table facilitators and others)
- Out to all delegates today (please add emails to list)
- All comments considered
- Out to NEAG, Alliance and others
- Passed by NEAG and RCGP
- Printing and distribution