

KEYPOINT1:

We are Swanswell, a charity providing a range of drug and alcohol treatment services for adults and young people across Birmingham, Coventry and Warwickshire.

KEYPOINT2:

Drug treatment provision through Primary Care accounts for approximately 50% of drug treatment services in Birmingham. Swanswell involves over 100 GP practices, more than 70% in Birmingham, and is the biggest of its kind in the UK.

KEYPOINT 3:

Shared care is provided by Swanswell, a charity with a forty year track record of tackling substance misuse.

Swanswell has received national awards for its Trainee Drug Worker programme and alcohol interventions within shared care.

KEYPOINT4:

Shared care rivals other treatment models, with more complex cases being managed in Primary Care. Factors like flexibility and local availability means patients choose.

CLIENT

I have access to the nurse and other healthcare at the surgery.

I get advice & information on substitute prescribing options, education, training, employment & housing, as well as ways of overcoming the cycle of using drugs.

KEYPOINT5:

Swanswell in Birmingham is currently working with over 2000 service users in shared care. Service users are involved in Swanswell at all levels, from treatment to board decisions.

KEYPOINT6:

Partnership working with pharmacies is an extension of the shared care partnership in Birmingham with excellent communication between GP and drug workers.

Sharing the care the Birmingham way

Why does it work?



work

well

together

GP

DW

KEYPOINT7:

Drug clinic surgery review meetings for every practice happen every 6-12 months allowing continuous improvements in the service.

KEYPOINT8:

Locally enhanced service for shared care between each practice, DAT and the PCT provides financial support and describes the commitment expected from the practices. Benefits of these contracts attract GPs to the scheme.

I have my own named drug worker who sees clients at the practice. My drug worker adapts to the way my practice works. I can manage my other responsibilities at the practice alongside the drug clinic.

I am supported by my GPSI mentor who is easily contactable. I can also contact Swanswell for guidance.

I have regular time with the GP to discuss cases.

I record client sessions on practice notes. My care plans and assessments are shared with the GP.

SUMMARY:

- Shared care is about communication between drug worker, GP, pharmacist and client.
- Shared care is about holistic treatment of client needs.
- Shared care is about ensuring clinical safety.
- "Sharing the care"- We all have our crucial part to play in addressing drug use.

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