Real-Time Prescription Monitoring (RTPM)

May 2020
1. What is the problem we’re trying to solve?

2. What is Real Time Prescription Monitoring?

3. Benefits

4. Project Timeline
What are the problem(s) we’re trying to solve?

Clinical
- The non-medical use of pharmaceutical drugs is an increasing public health problem in Australia, with evidence suggesting increasing prevalence of misuse and associated harms including mortality
- Of the 1,740 registered drug-induced deaths in 2018, opioids were present in close to two thirds (1,123 deaths, 64.5%)
- The rate of dispensed prescriptions for pharmaceutical opioids has been climbing—up 11% between 2012–13 and 2016–17

Business / Regulatory
- NSW Health has obligations under state law and international convention to regulate access to controlled substances
- While sophisticated, these processes are either difficult to target to specific practitioners or transactional in nature and require significant manpower to be effective
- The relatively recent increase in the availability of high quality prescribing and dispensing data yields an opportunity to enhance the Regulatory outcomes of NSW Health, leading to safer and healthier society
RTPM and Authority Management Systems

- Are used to track medicines associated with a high risk of causing dependence or that are associated with misuse, such as opioid medications and benzodiazepines
- Support clinical decision-making and assist in identifying and reducing non-medical use of Schedule 8 (S8) and other high risk Schedule 4 (S4) medicines
- Are in use in other jurisdictions in Australia and around the world
  - Evidence from the USA has shown that RTPM programs can reduce opioid related deaths, provided appropriate supporting frameworks are in place to enable appropriate clinical management and referral
- Are not intended to replace professional judgment by health professionals
- Will integrate with other existing regulatory systems, including notifications, referrals and regulatory responses and aim to streamline the interactions between clinicians and regulatory organisations
RTPM and Authorisation Management Application Capabilities

1 Regulator Transaction monitoring and oversight
   • Supports achievement of regulatory outcomes, compliance monitoring and targeting investigations

2 Clinician Use of Transaction Information
   • Enables improved clinical decision making
   • Early identification of individuals at risk of harm
   a Passive access to information
   b Notifications and alerts for high risk circumstances

3 Authorisation Management
   • Reduce inefficiency for clinicians and regulators, streamlines regulatory functions and improves data quality
   a Replace ERRCD with new system, similar capabilities
   b Enable online application process for authorities
Clinical and Business Drivers

▸ Aid clinical decision making of prescribers and dispensers at the time of consultation by providing real time prescribing and dispensing transaction information for monitored substances

▸ Promote earlier identification of consumers at risk of monitored substance related harm and enable improved clinical management

▸ Support Pharmaceutical Regulatory Unit to achieve Regulatory outcomes by provision of timely, accurate and targeted information to aid decision making and enable enhanced monitoring and surveillance.

▸ Reduce inefficiency for clinicians and regulators through smarter use of technology and streamline regulatory functions (data entry, collection, data quality)

▸ Enable the Ministry of Health (Regulator and Population Health) to adopt more targeted and responsive approach to emerging monitored substance usage trends of concern, by providing state-wide data and intelligence on epidemiology of monitored substances use
Benefits

An RTPM and Authority Management system will provide numerous benefits to patients, health care providers and the general community

Benefits for Consumers

► Reduced risks of medicine related harm caused by inappropriate prescribing
► Enables a patient-centred approach to address prescription medicine misuse
► Improved quality and co-ordination of care
► A safer community achieved through better regulation, reducing opportunities for substance misuse and trafficking

Public Health Benefits

► Potential to reduce prescription medication related harm
► Ability to monitor usage trends, enabling targeting of other public health interventions
► Potential reduction in ambulance and emergency department presentations

Benefits for prescribers & pharmacists

► Easier to identify patients who are at risk of harm due to dependency, misuse or harmful substance combinations
► Provides an opportunity to discuss alternative treatment options and support best practice prescribing
► Provide higher quality information for clinicians to better prescribing decisions
► Streamlined and more efficient authority application process

Regulatory Benefits

► Increased efficiency when monitoring prescribing and dispensing information
► Supports quality use of medicines through enhanced monitoring capability
► Enables improved identification of potential fraudulent activity
► Supports regulatory compliance activities by integrating with other regulatory processes
Building on Success, Learning from Challenges

► We will continue to work with the Commonwealth to enable progression of RTPM in NSW

► We are working closely with partners in other States and Territories to learn and build on their experiences:
  ► Impact to clinical workflow
  ► Learnings from system design and implementation
  ► Avoid duplicated effort
  ► Evolution of regulatory responses and oversight
Project Timeline

Strategic Review
High level review and options analysis.

Identify NSW Clinician Requirements
Learning from experience in other jurisdictions, what will be needed for RTPM to be successful in NSW?

Develop frameworks to support use of RTPM
Clinical education and training, clinical redesign and models of care and supporting regulatory processes.

Finalise Strategic Business Case
Promotions only work as well as the marketing.

Planning for Implementation
Continuing the journey and making it real.

We are here
► Please help us to provide the right tools for you to use in your practice by joining us for a 2 hour workshop in early June.
► Please contact the team at EHNSW-RealTimePrescriptionMonitoring@health.nsw.gov.au to nominate.
► We value your time and are able to offer some remuneration for your participation.