

Alcohol Use Disorder In Emergency Departments in BC:

Developing a methodology framework for an environmental scan of ED management practices

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Background Information

- The emergency department often serves as a primary point of contact for individuals with alcohol use disorder (AUD) with patients with AUD presenting more frequently. ¹
 - ED-based management including screening, medication initiation and referrals have been shown to improve health outcomes. ^{2,3}
 - Barriers: lack of formal protocols or resources. ²
 - There is heterogeneity in treatment practices ^{4,5}
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- OUR GOAL: *Identify current management practices for AUD in emergency departments across British Columbia.*

Research Question

How are emergency care providers in British Columbia managing alcohol use disorder in the emergency department?

- Do emergency care providers view management of AUD as a priority in the emergency department in BC?
- What evidence or guidelines inform the AUD management practices in BC?
- What are the barriers and limitations to managing AUD in emergency departments in BC?
- What facilitates management of AUD in the emergency departments in BC?
- How are emergency departments in BC evaluating their AUD management practices?

Informed by the GRACE-4 Guidelines.⁶

Project Summary

Developing a methodology framework for an environmental scan of AUD management practices in EDs in BC.

Design informed by multiple similar studies in the literature.

Target population: emergency care providers including emergency physicians, nurses, allied health professionals and administrators involved in the management of AUD in the ED.

Themes: policies and practices, attitudes and beliefs, and barriers and facilitators of AUD management in the ED.

Format: Combination of multiple choice, Likert-scale, and open-ended questions.

Important considerations: survey formatting, survey administration, sample selection.



Next Steps

- Developing a survey tool to be used in the environmental scan.
- Assessing validity and reliability of the survey tool.
- Testing of the survey through pre-testing and pilot testing.
- Developing a strategy to recruit a representative sample of respondents.



Reflection

Gained an understanding of survey methodology – will inform future quality improvement work.

Improved understanding of AUD management practices and landscape of management practices on a broader scale - currently evolving field and important area of focus.

Call To Action

- Consider the AUD management practices in your emergency department.
- Stay tuned for information regarding the next stages of this project.

Thank You

Any questions?

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