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Pharmacy Research **UK**

Building the evidence base for community pharmacy depression services

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Introduction

- Depression is the most common mental health condition affecting over 300 million people worldwide.
- This number is increasing in the UK, and over a decade the number of anti-depressants prescribed has almost doubled.
- People who work in community pharmacies (chemists) could help people with depression as pharmacies are widely distributed, especially in deprived areas where depression is more common, and are easy to access without an appointment.



What do we want to achieve?

- This study will gather the results of research that has been conducted on community pharmacy depression services and identify which services should be provided in the UK.
- This will involve a Systematic Review (Study 1) and a formal Stakeholder Consensus process (Study 2.)

Systematic Review

- Study 1 will explore databases which store research studies from across the world. These studies will be read and important information will be extracted such as:
 - information on the depression services
 - the impact on patients (including their symptoms)
 - what made the services difficult or easy to provide.
- The information from the studies will be written as a summary of findings. This will offer a picture of what has worked and what has not worked.



Stakeholder Consensus

- In Study 2, the results of Study 1 will be summarised into an online questionnaire sent to a range of people, including:
 - People with experience of depression (and their carers)
 - Health and social care professionals (e.g. pharmacists, general practitioners, nurses, psychiatrists, social workers)
 - Policy makers
 - Third sectors organisations (e.g. charities)
- The questionnaire will describe the research findings, and participants will be asked for their opinions on which services are a priority and could be most beneficial within the UK.

Benefits

- The results will offer clear guidance on which depression services should be implemented in UK community pharmacies, based on evidence and the perceptions of people in the UK.
- This process will maximise the contribution that community pharmacy staff could make to the support and care of patients with depression, which is often a long-term condition.

Are you interested?
Please get in touch if
you wish to:

- Be kept informed
- Participate
- Collaborate

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