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Research in Public Health

Implementing and recording brief interventions in Primary Care

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Workshop aims and objectives

- > Focus: *“What are the key barriers to effective implementation and recording of alcohol interventions in primary care?”*
- > Overview of research project
- > Brainstorming session
- > Developing solutions
- > Summary and suggested ways forward



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Tackling alcohol misuse: role of SBI in primary care

- > Ideal context for early detection and secondary prevention of alcohol-related problems.
- > SBI in primary care: relevant; cost-effective; efficacious.
- > Recent developments:
 - Policy endorsement: National, regional and local; and
 - Delivery incentives: Directed Enhanced Service (DES).



Alcohol Users Disorders Identification Test (AUDIT)

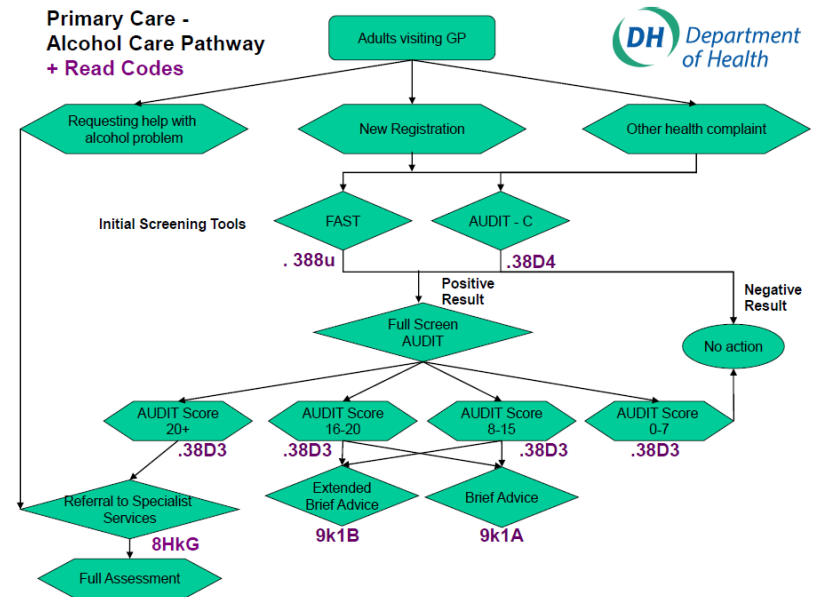
Questions	Scoring System				Your Score
	0	1	2	3	
How often do you have a drink that contains alcohol?	Never	Monthly or less	2-4 times per month	2-3 times per week	4+ times per week
How many standard alcoholic drinks do you have on a typical day when you are drinking?	1-2	3-4	5-6	7-8	10+
How often do you have 6 or more standard drinks on one occasion?	Never	Less than monthly	Monthly	Weekly	Daily or almost daily
How often in the last year have you found you were not able to stop drinking once you had started?	Never	Less than monthly	Monthly	Weekly	Daily or almost daily
How often in the last year have you failed to do what was expected of you because of drinking?	Never	Less than monthly	Monthly	Weekly	Daily or almost daily
How often in the last year have you needed an alcoholic drink in the morning to get you going?	Never	Less than monthly	Monthly	Weekly	Daily or almost daily
How often in the last year have you had a feeling of guilt or regret after drinking?	Never	Less than monthly	Monthly	Weekly	Daily or almost daily
How often in the last year have you not been able to remember what happened when drinking the night before?	Never	Less than monthly	Monthly	Weekly	Daily or almost daily
Have you or someone else been injured as a result of your drinking?	No		Yes but not in the last year		Yes during the last year
Has a relative/friend/doctor/health worker been concerned about your drinking or advised you to cut down?	No		Yes but not in the last year		Yes during the last year

Scoring: 0-7 = sensible drinking, 8-15 = hazardous drinking, 16-19 = harmful drinking and 20+ = possible dependence.

How much is too much? Screening Tools

'Measuring' and monitoring alcohol interventions

- > Rate of alcohol admissions:
NI 39
- > Alcohol DES for alcohol,
supported by Primary Care
Service Framework
- > Alcohol Read Codes



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Using routine alcohol data: opportunities & challenges

Advantages:

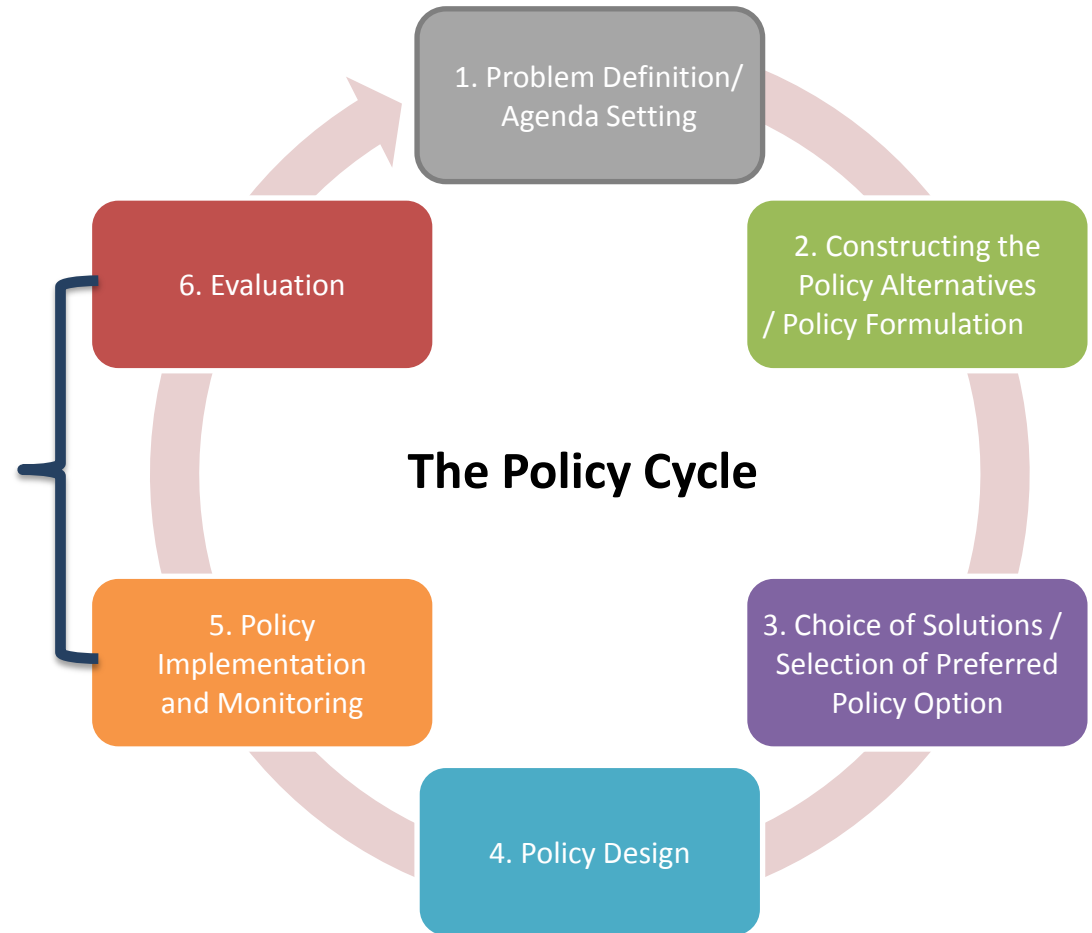
- > Cost-effective and non-intrusive data source
- > Little used in research
- > Available in multiple-settings; and for many patients
- > Well-suited to audit and evaluation studies

Disadvantages:

- > Suitability of Electronic Medical Record (EMR) data for research
- > Limitations of Hospital Episode Statistics
- > Routine data as proxy measure of delivery?

Research question

Can we use routinely collected data to monitor and evaluate alcohol screening and brief interventions?



Methods

Phase 1: Literature review

- > Policy critique of national and regional policy framework
- > Systematic review of which factors influence the recording of routine practice data by primary care physicians in the UK.

Phase 2: Secondary data analysis

- > Understanding alcohol misuse patterns in the practice population
- > Compare and contrast recording practices
- > Explore recording practices in other primary care settings

Phase 3: Qualitative interviews with GPs

- > Explore barriers and facilitators influencing monitoring and recording behaviours

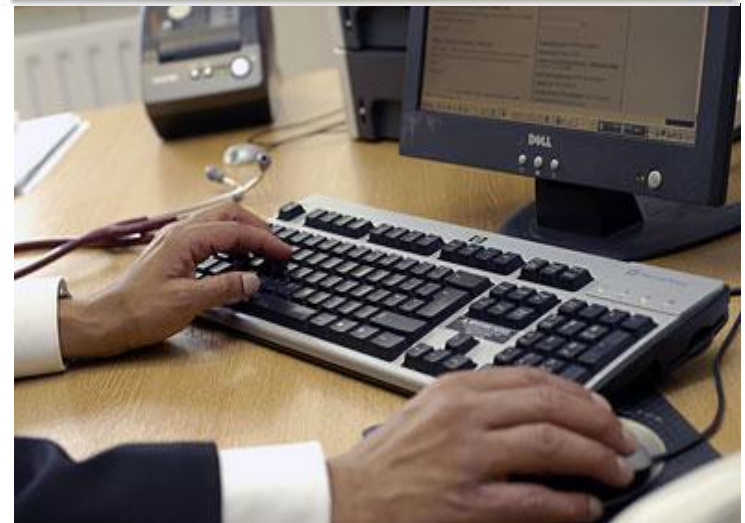


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Phase 2: Secondary data analysis

- > Conducted pilot phase with 1 GP practice and developed Read Code query set
- > Recruited 10 practices and started collecting data
- > Emerging message → delivery and recording of alcohol SBI influenced by range of intrinsic / extrinsic factors
- > Other potential data sources: HES and NDTMS



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Q: What are the key barriers to effective implementation and recording of alcohol interventions in primary care?

