

6 December 2017

STATEWIDE MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

COMMUNIQUE

Review of the Tasmanian Opioid Pharmacotherapy Program Policy and Clinical Practice Standards (TOPP)

Alcohol and Drug Services has commenced a review of the [Tasmanian Opioid Pharmacotherapy Program Policy and Clinical Practice Standards \(TOPP\)](#). The TOPP was originally released in August 2012 and since this time, the Opioid Pharmacotherapy Program has evolved and expanded across Tasmania.

In light of feedback received over the past five years the review aims to provide an updated policy that improves access to opioid pharmacotherapy treatment while meeting quality and safety goals. It is critical that such an influential document is reviewed to ensure its effectiveness, application and contemporary nature of its content based on available evidence.

To guide the review, a dedicated Clinical Reference Group is being established to provide expert input and guidance to the review process and will consider changes to specific content areas of the TOPP document. This Group will have a broad membership comprising of a consumer, community sector organisation representatives, health professionals, and government representatives.

The review will be informed by a dedicated consultation and feedback process involving consumers and stakeholders, many of whom currently participate in the Opioid Pharmacotherapy Program.

The consultation and feedback process is planned to take place from the 8 January 2018 for four weeks and will include regional forums, online surveys and opportunity to provide written submissions via email.

Further information about the consultation and feedback activities will be made available to consumers and stakeholders during December 2017.

The review is anticipated to be completed by mid-2018.

All information pertaining to the review will be made available via our website at:

www.dhhs.tas.gov.au/mentalhealth/alcohol_and_drug

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