

Tender Brief re Buprenorphine Research

Background

The National Advisory Committee on Drugs (NACD) was established in July 2000 to advise the Government in relation to prevalence, prevention, treatment/rehabilitation and consequences of problem drug use in Ireland based on analysis of research findings and information available to it. The Committee is overseeing a three-year work programme on the extent, nature, causes and effects of drug use in Ireland. The Committee comprises representatives nominated from relevant agencies and sectors both statutory and non-statutory. The Committee operates under the aegis of the Department of Tourism, Sport and Recreation and reports to the Minister of State with special responsibility for the National Drug Strategy. Further information can be obtained from the Department's website www.irlgov.ie/tourism-sport.

Commission

The NACD wishes to commission an overview of the international research and literature available regarding the use of Buprenorphine as an intervention in the treatment of Opiate Dependence Syndrome. The review should cover information available arising from scientific investigation, managerial and economic interest and clinical practice with consideration of the following:

- The effectiveness of Buprenorphine as an intervention in Opiate Dependence Syndrome
- Pharmacotoxicological effects on the individual, adverse reactions, pharmacovigilance data, abuse potential
- A Systematic Review of the published trials including those in languages other than English would be highly desirable or an Overview of the evidence from the clinical trials or a Meta-analysis of the trials
- Pharmacoeconomic analysis of the intervention
- Evaluation of the research methods, instruments and variables used in all aspects of the above
- Implications for the Irish context

Tender requirements:

Tenders submitted should include a detailed proposal of the following:

- A timetable for completion of work from project initiation to the preparation of first draft through to the final draft;
- Number of days and costs per day or part thereof;
- Administrative costs if applicable;
- Name of person(s) who will undertake the work;
- Skills and experience of person undertaking work

The NACD is keen that this work commences immediately and is seeking a report at the earliest opportunity.