



Effective Health Care Programs to Treat Addictions

Results of Topic Selection Process

The topic, *Programs to Treat Addictions*, represents an important issue. However, the nomination relates to all types of addictions and associated classes of treatment, and a potential evidence review examining all interventions for all types of addictions is too broad for assessment and consideration by the program. In addition, the nominator suggested a longitudinal study to identify risk factors for addiction. This is a primary research question, and not one that can be addressed by a systematic review. No further activity will be undertaken on this topic.

The EPC Program has an in-process technical brief on Medication-Assisted Treatment Models of Care for Opioid Use Disorder which may be useful to the nominator. The protocol is available here <https://www.effectivehealthcare.ahrq.gov/search-for-guides-reviews-and-reports/?pageaction=displayproduct&productid=2190>.

Nomination

Topic Number: 0566

Received On: 05/24/2013

Topic Name: Programs to Treat Addictions

Nominator: Nurse/Nurse Practitioner/Physician Assistant, Other Health Care Professional, Professional Society, and Researcher

Nomination Summary: The nominator is interested in the comparative benefits between different programs for treatment for patients with addictions. The population of interest is men and women over the age of 15, with subgroups including level of education, ethnicity, comorbidities, and concomitant medications. The nominator requests a longitudinal study be conducted over a ten-year span to identify risk factors in these subpopulations. Treating addictions is an important topic due to the direct harms to the individual and the indirect costs to interpersonal relationships and society. The nominator hopes an AHRQ systematic review will aid in understanding addictive tendencies, identifying the early stages of addiction, and treating the disease.

Key Questions from Nomination: For patients with addictions (i.e. gambling, shopping, alcohol, and/or street or prescribed drugs), what are the comparative benefits between different programs for treatment?

Policy and/or Clinical Context from the Nomination: This research has the potential to make a difference in the affected population, psychologically and physically.

Original Nomination

Topic Suggestion Description

Date submitted: 05/24/2013

Briefly describe a specific question, or set of related questions, about a health care test or treatment that this program should consider.

For patients with addictions (i.e. gambling, shopping, alcohol, street or prescribed drugs) what are the comparative benefits between different programs for treatment?

What patients or group(s) of patients does your question apply to? Are there subgroups of patients that your question might apply to?

Male and female > 15 years of age, longitudinal design, add in education, ethnicity, co-morbid conditions and concomitant medications over time. Do a study if identifiable risk factors can be found longitudinally similar to the NHANES and Framingham studies.

Treat each type of addiction ie. gambling, alcohol, drug/substance abuse, shopping as a subgroup along with 10 year age cohorts, ethnic groups, and if possible stage of disease.

Importance

Describe why this topic is important.

I am one who has had a problem and been through many parts of the system and found it to be ineffective. Have seen a lot of waste and realize the enormous financial and human cost involved. There is potential to make a difference and see how this could change. Economic circumstances and education seem to have direct effects on ability to deal with the situation.

Potential Impact

It could be a widespread answer in a general manner, and then over time, new researchers could use such a database to research new interventions, programs, education, family interventions etc.

Technical Experts and Stakeholders

Are there health care-focused, disease-focused, or patient-focused organizations or technical experts that you see as being relevant to this issue? Who do you think we should contact as we consider your nomination? This information will not influence the progress of your suggestion through the selection process, but it may be helpful to those considering your suggestion for further development.

Nominator Information

Other Information About You: (optional)

Please choose a description that best describes your role or perspective: (you may select more than one category if appropriate)

Nurse/Nurse Practitioner/Physician Assistant, Other Health Care Professional,
Professional Society, and Researcher

Please tell us how you heard about the Effective Health Care Program
May we contact you if we have questions about your nomination?

No