

Number and Name of Original Issue	Issue (3): Side Effects
Description of Issue	Mental health consumers having little or no choice of prescribed medication and the side-effects that result
Suggested change to description of Issue	Include the words direct effects or positive and negative effects as disempowerment was a key theme during the discussion on the day
Prepared by	Douglas Holmes and agreed to by the working group on 26 August 2011

Original Recommendations from group 3 at the TheMHS Consumer Day 2010

17 of the 253 consumers attending the day participated in this group.

Rec No 1: Consumers be given a card with 4 or 5 key questions to ask clinicians about their medications at point of prescriptions.

Rec No 2: Strong support for the consumer voice to unite and raise awareness around medication issues. This would be via internet forum/links etc. Perhaps it could be a standing agenda item for the new National Consumer Peak Body <http://crazelateralsolutions.com>

Rec No 3: Checkbox scale tool for clinicians to gauge quality of life due to the impact of effects from meds. Then we were informed that Ron Coleman already has one so I will investigate that and send it on

Cindi Rees was the Recovery Bus Coordinator for the group. Cindi's email is crees@newhorizons.net.au

Feedback since the Consumer Day:

Since the 2010 Sydney TheMHS Consumer Day 60 people have responded through survey monkey 35 people agreed and 2 people disagreed with the recommendations put forward by the working group. 13 people made comments on the recommendations

Comments

We have reviewed the 13 comments supplied through Survey Monkey and suggest that this issue is still relevant because consumers are still having issues with information about their choice of prescribed medication

Rewording suggestion for recommendations: Nil

Other issues for working party consideration/discussion: We need to follow up about the checklist that Ron Coleman has developed. The working group discussed that we needed to identify what is the universal wording that is currently being used to collect Consumers views into their treatment plans e.g. In NSW it is the NSW Health MHOAT Consumer Wellness Plan http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/pubs/2010/whoserecovery_dl_v5_web.html