

Exploring Deprescribing Opportunities for Community Pharmacists

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Disclosures

- Nothing to disclose



Deprescribing

The planned and supervised process of dose reduction or stopping of medication that may be causing harm or no longer be providing benefit.
- *Ontario Pharmacy Evidence Network (OPEN)*

Who should deprescribe?

- Prescribers?
- Pharmacists?



Opportunities through dispensing
Indirect reimbursement



Time?
Reimbursement - adequate?
Willingness?

Research Question

What are the perspectives of Ontario community pharmacists about deprescribing in their practices?

Aims:

- To inform whether/how future interventions can enhance community pharmacists' roles in deprescribing
- To inform whether/how community pharmacists can be leveraged to improve patient access to quality deprescribing interventions

Participants

Ontario community pharmacists

- Full-time (≥ 30 h/week) in a retail pharmacy
- At current position for ≥ 1 year

Recruitment

- Research Team contacts
- Social Media

Sample size

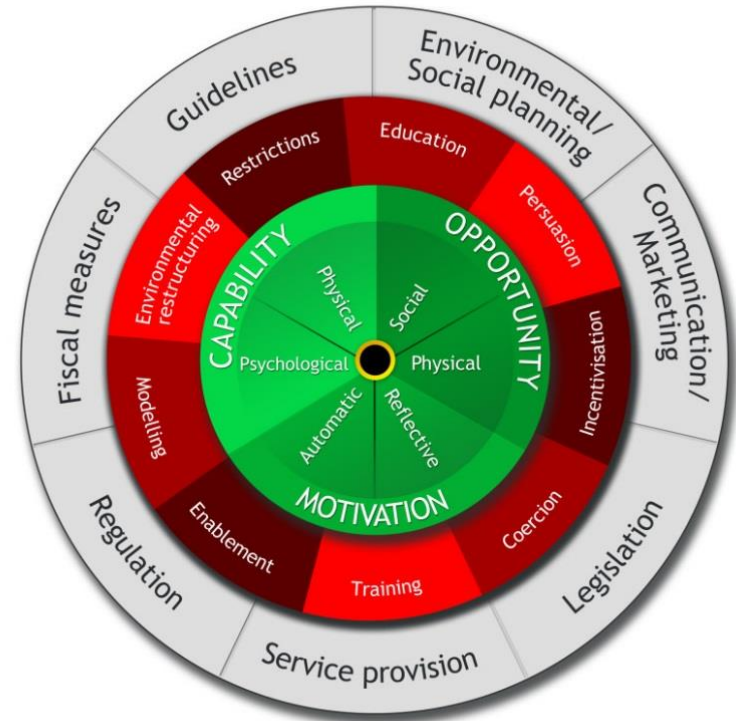
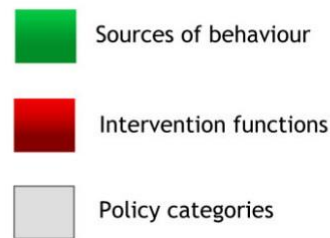
- 15-20 participants, until thematic saturation

Maximum Variability



Interviews

- Audio recorded telephone calls (~30-45 minutes)
- Semi-structured interview guide – Behaviour Change Wheel (BCW)



Michie S, van Stralen MM, West R. The behaviour change wheel: a new method for characterising and designing behaviour change interventions. *Implement Sci.* 2011;6:42.

Analysis

- Interviews transcribed verbatim
- Coding iteratively while interviewing
- Thematic analysis
- Reflexivity
- Member checking

Braun V, Clarke V. Using Thematic Analysis in Psychology. *Qualitative Research in Psychology*. 2006;3:77-101.

Tracy S. Qualitative Quality: Eight “Big-Tent” Criteria for Excellent Qualitative Research. *Qualitative Inquiry*. 2010;16(10):837-51.

Examples of codes and categories

Benefits of Pharmacist-Patient Relationships	Financial Interests
Access to patient information	Financial incentives to deprescribe
Patient loyalty to pharmacy/pharmacist	Financial consequences to deprescribing
Patients accepting pharmacist's advice	

Preliminary Results

“...I don't have all the information they [physicians] have to make the decision [to deprescribe]... Which I think, strengthens the need for the doctor to ultimately be in charge of that decision...”

- Participant 3



“...we see the patients sometimes more than them [physicians]. And so we sometimes have information that they might not...they do appreciate it ... and they would like the help and sharing the responsibility [for deprescribing].”

- Participant 1

Implications

- Improving access to information may empower pharmacists
- Pharmacists can be a key source of patient information for physicians
- Two-way information sharing

Next Steps

- Additional interviews
- Completion of analysis
- Member checking

Thank you



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<http://www.open-pharmacy-research.ca>