**APPLICATION FOR USE OF PRIMARY SENSE DATA FOR SECONDARY PURPOSES**

**Gold Coast Primary Sense Clinical Advisory Group**

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| **Research Team** |
| Who is involved in the research project? | * Wing Ho Oliver Yeung, Bond University, Lead investigator
* Professor Mark Morgan, Bond University, Supervisor, GP and co-author of the RACGP Guidelines for opioids
* Dr James Todd, Bond University, Supervisor
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| **Project Details** |
| Project title | Which patients are at risk of becoming long term opioid users: Retrospective analysis of primary care data from the Gold Coast |
| Project funding - what control does the funder have on the research or dissemination? | There is no funder for this project. |
| What is the primary care/PHN priority that your research addresses? | 1. Population Health – data-informed approach to a high-risk cohort.
2. Alcohol and Other Drugs – to provide important insights into the extent and nature of long-term prescription opioid use.
3. Digital Health – demonstrating the insights obtained by data analysis from a primary care data set.
4. Mental Health – to provide insights for commissioning and coordination of drug and alcohol services.
5. Quality Care –to advance data analysis expertise that will enable PHN to support quality care programs for willing GP clinics.
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| How will your project benefit patients and/or staff in general practice?  | The goal of the project is to identify the types of patients who are at risk of becoming long-term opioid users, which supports the delivery of interventions and alternative pathways to high-risk patients. At the patient-level, benefits stem from the potential avoidance of unnecessary long-term opioid use and its related harms. The project will also demonstrate the value of Primary Sense as a tool that can give valuable insights into primary care, particularly quality use of medicines. |
| What is involved for GPs? | As the data involved in the proposed research is retrospective and is intended to be extracted from Primary Sense, no active involvement for GPs is required. General practices will, however, be given an opportunity to opt out of the research if they wish, and individual practices will not be identified in the data.  |
| What is involved for other practice and/or PHN staff? | * Wing Ho Oliver Yeung, Bond University, Lead investigator
* Professor Mark Morgan, Bond University, Supervisor, GP and co-author of the RACGP Guidelines for opioids.
* Dr James Todd, Bond University, Supervisor
* Dr Alyson Ross, Gold Coast PHN, Director of Commissioning (Systems)
* Dr Jerneja Sveticic, Gold Coast PHN, Health Intelligence and Research Manager
* Brandon Ibbotson, Gold Coast PHN, Developer
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| Will there be any technical changes required to Primary Sense functionality? | As the data involved in the proposed research is retrospective and is intended to be extracted from Primary Sense, no active involvement for practices is required. They will, however, be given an opportunity to opt out of the research if they wish. PHN staff will be involved in the project as data custodians. This role will either involve assistance in extracting appropriate data from Primary Sense for analysis by the lead investigator, or supervision of the lead investigator in the analysis if data must remain on-site. Additionally, PHN staff will assist in ensuring all relevant practices are notified of the proposed research and given sufficient time to opt out if they choose. Lastly, PHN staff will be involved in approving any dissemination of research to ensure it is appropriate and aligned with the broader goal of improving patient outcomes.  |
| What is involved for patients? | No change is expected to be required to Primary Sense functionality.  |
| How will participants’ contribution to your research be acknowledged and/or honoured? | As the data involved in the proposed research is retrospective and is intended to be extracted from Primary Sense, no active involvement for patients is required. All data used in the project is de-identified to ensure the privacy of patients as well as GPs. |
| **Ethics approval?** |
| Has this research received ethical approval? (*yes/no/exemption)* | Yes  |
| Which ethics committee/s? | Bond University ethics approval JS 00677 (valid until 28 June 2025) |
| **PS CAG involvement** |
| What are you asking the PHN or Primary Sense Clinical Advisory Committee to do for you?  *Please provide detail including wording for any email invitation, if appropriate.* | PHN staff will be asked to provide GPs with an opportunity to opt out of the research, assist with data extraction, and approving any research dissemination. When providing GPs with an opportunity to opt out of the research, we would be happy to discuss the most appropriate wording with PHN staff. It is expected that the email invitation specifies the goal of the research (to the type of patients, demographic and clinical factors associated with long term opioid) and intended benefit to practice. It is also hoped that the invitation highlights that individual practices and patients will not be identified, in keeping with the goal of using Primary Sense data for quality improvement rather than monitoring. Data intended to be used in the project, and requiring corresponding assistance from the Gold Coast PHN, consists of retrospective data of GP visitations between 2018 to 2024.This data will include simple patient demographic information, diagnoses, drug/prescription information, and reasons for visits. These data categories have been supported in literature view to provide significance in determining long-term prescription opioid dependency risk. |
| **Dissemination of research findings** |
| How will findings from your research be disseminated? Please provide as much detail as possible, e.g., target journals, conference names etc. | Intended dissemination of the research encompasses a publication in a peer reviewed journal pertaining to health informatics or primary care, and presentation at a national conference. |
| How will you report back to Primary Sense Clinical Advisory Committee? | This outputs from this research will be provided to the Primary Sense Clinical Advisory Committee, or other appropriate nominated group, to be approved and potentially modified before being finalised.  |