

Introduction of Patient-Oriented Research to The Red Fish Healing Centre for Mental Health and Addiction: A 4-Phase Model

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Background

The Red Fish Healing Centre for Mental Health and Addiction (Red Fish) is the first in North America to treat individuals with severe concurrent disorders through an evidence-based, patient-centred model of care. Persons with complex concurrent disorder have been regularly excluded from research (Hakobyan et al. 2020). There is a need for an approach that allows patients' experience to be integrated into research. The necessity to cooperate with patient partners is high given that complex concurrent disorders are associated with marginalization, diverse unmet needs, and substantial level of suffering. The UBC BRAIN Lab proposes a multi-stage model that initially will be integrated into the Red Fish treatment centre, aligning with their evidence-based and patient-centred model of care. The goal for the model is further to act as a framework for others.

Implications

Research conducted at Red Fish currently lacks the patient-centred research objectives that their model of care employs. Therefore, incorporating patient-oriented research will inform research and research-related initiatives at Red Fish and other centres by placing patient needs and priorities at the forefront.

References

Hakobyan, S., Vazirian, S., Lee-Cheong, S., Krausz, M., Honer, W. G., & Schutz, C. G. (2020). Concurrent Disorder Management Guidelines. Systematic Review. *Journal of Clinical Medicine*, 9(8), 2406.

Collaborators



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Methodology

We propose a four-phase model to introduce patient-oriented research projects into a treatment facility. The model utilizes a committee, a focus group, and assesses the changes in baseline and follow-up after implementing an identified action plan.

Phase 1

Establish a Patient-Oriented Research Committee

This committee will include a patient partner (with lived experience at a treatment centre), researchers, and volunteers involved in the development, analysis, and action plans associated with each phase.

Phase 2

Baseline Assessment

The committee will consult with current patients and staff at the treatment centre to participate in a focus group (n=10) to discuss and assess baseline awareness and engagement with research at the centre through quantitative (survey) and qualitative (open-ended questions) methods.

Phase 3

Identify Themes and Implement Action Plan

The Patient-Oriented Research Committee will identify major trends addressed in Phase 2 and develop and implement an action plan to address the identified shortcomings.

Phase 4

Follow Up Assessment

After implementing the identified action plan, the committee will determine the changes in baseline awareness and engagement with research at the centre through follow-up assessments used in Phase 2. The results will allow us to inform or reassess patient-oriented research at the treatment facility.