

This communique provides an update on some of the NSW Health AOD priorities which have a connection to the NSW AOD NGO sector.

What we are doing to...	What we are doing to...	What we are doing to...	What we are doing to...
<b>Strengthen the system</b>	<b>Expand access to treatment</b>	<b>Drive the Opioid Treatment Program and increase access to take home naloxone</b>	<b>Reduce stigma and discrimination experienced by consumers</b>
			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Streamline funding contracts to reduce duplication</li> <li>✓ Develop defined service definitions and service requirements</li> <li>✓ Align performance indicators across agencies with a focus on safety and quality for clients</li> <li>✓ Establish NGO performance framework processes, roles and responsibilities</li> <li>✓ Improve quality and completeness of service data collection</li> <li>✓ Build consumer engagement and participation in development and implementation of AOD policy, programs and services.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Establish new residential rehabilitation service in the Goulburn area</li> <li>✓ Expand publicly available information about AOD treatment options and contacts</li> <li>✓ Strengthen AOD telephone information and support services with active engagement and referral for clients</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Resolve legal and regulatory barriers affecting NGOs' role in take home naloxone</li> <li>✓ Develop training for NGOs to supply naloxone</li> <li>✓ Educate the NGO sector of depot buprenorphine implementation as a new treatment option for clients</li> <li>✓ Engage NGOs in providing AOD services for clients prescribed depot buprenorphine</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Conduct behavioural research with NSW Health and NGO AOD staff to identify beliefs and behaviours that lead to stigma and discrimination</li> <li>✓ Use research data to inform strategies to address stigma and discrimination of AOD consumers</li> <li>✓ Utilise the Ministry of Health ADO Consumer Reference Group to inform strategies to address stigma and discrimination</li> <li>✓ Support innovation in client centred care and addressing stigma and discrimination</li> </ul>

**The NSW AOD NGO Working Group, with representatives from funded NGOs, LHDs, primary health networks, NADA and the Ministry, provides a forum for communication and collaboration between stakeholders to improve funding, contracting, performance management and service development.**

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