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CHRONIC NON CANCER PAIN AND MISUSE AND DEPENDENCE OF ANALGESIC DRUGS

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As the chronic disease model is now accepted as the model to treat individuals in the community in the UK, it has become important to recognise that individuals tend to present with more than one concomitant problem (comorbidity). A increasing patient centred approach to treatment and recovery has helped to recognise the dual concept of pain and dependence within the clinical environment. There is an ever increasing prevalence of this dual presentation and this has helped to effectively manage individuals with a substance misuse history and associated chronic pain and others treated for their chronic pain with strong analgesic and subsequently experiencing substance misuse and dependence problems.

This presentation aims to provide the literature overview of these populations, clinical characteristics and problems presenting in a pain and dependence clinic in Scotland. Several models of practice will also be presented.