SODIUM VALPROATE PRESCRIBING PHASE 1 - STAKEHOLDER INSIGHT

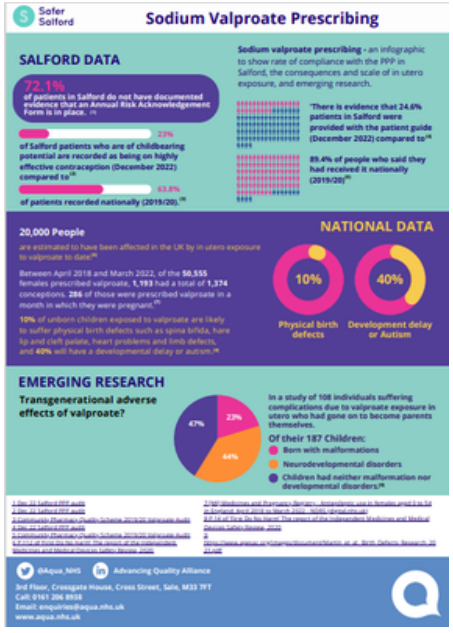
Salford Integrated Care Partnership | Safer Salford | aqua — Shape Change Inspire Quality Transform Care

Context:

- Sodium valproate is a highly teratogenic drug; when taken during conception and pregnancy it carries an over 10% risk of foetal harm (learning and behavioural difficulties- 40% and/or physical disability-10%).
- A number of approaches to reduce sodium valproate prescribing for women of childbearing age exist. However, evidence shows that many women are still taking the drug during pregnancy and are not aware of the risks.
- Aqua and NHS Greater Manchester Salford wanted to explore the collaborative behaviour change, risk stratification and risk sharing required across primary care and specialist mental health and neurology services in order to reduce prescribing.

What We Did:

- Aqua gathered insight from a range of stakeholder groups, including primary care, neurology, pharmacy, obstetrics, paediatrics, and patient groups.
- The insights helped to compare perspectives on the risks versus benefits of prescribing the drug, and their understanding of the current guidance and legislation.
- We produced an infographic to raise awareness of the rate of compliance with the pregnancy prevention plan in Salford, the consequences and scale of in utero exposure, and emerging research.
- We completed 13 stakeholder insight interviews, which were analysed using the Competence, Opportunity, Motivation and Behaviour (COM-B) framework.



Culture & Leadership

Next steps:

GM Integrated Care (Salford) entering a team on the Aqua Medicines Safety collaborative, to focus on reducing prescribing of Sodium Valproate. Safer Salford team to provide wrap around support as required.

Impact:

The insight gathered gave an improved understanding of the behaviours that contribute to Sodium Valproate prescribing, which, triangulated with data, has given Salford a more rounded understanding of the problem and opportunities.

NHS GM Salford have shared high level outcomes of this work with NHS Greater Manchester Integrated Care to support action planning in response to the most recent national patient safety alert.

For further details about this piece of work, or to discuss how we can support you, please get in touch:

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