



RCSI

Retention in opiate substitution treatment in Ireland: A mixed methodologies approach

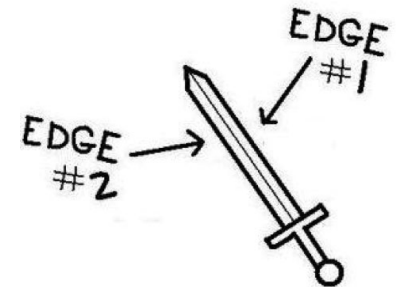
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OPIATES: THE IRISH SITUATION



- Opiate users have a high risk of premature mortality
 - Approx. 6 times that of the general population⁽¹⁾
- Ireland has the **3rd highest prevalence** of opiate use in Europe ⁽²⁾
 - Estimated 18,720 – 21,454 in 2014⁽³⁾
- Opiate substitution treatment (OST) is principle treatment for dependent opiate users on the basis that:
 - Improves physical and mental health
 - Reduces mortality, illicit drug use, criminal activity, and reduces the risk of HIV and Hepatitis C virus acquisition ⁽⁴⁾



NATIONAL METHADONE REGISTER



Specialist
Treatment
5,438

The Central
Treatment
List (10,087
patients)

Prisons
465

General
Practice
4,184

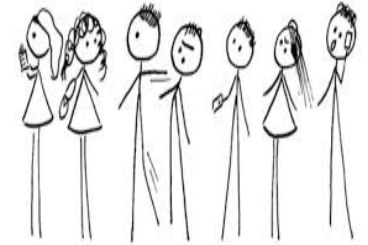


OBJECTIVES



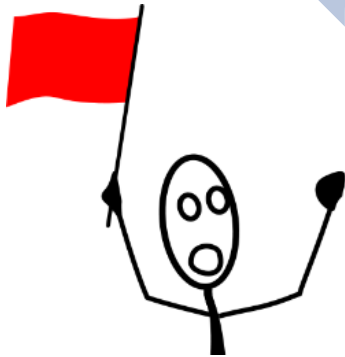
1) Systematic review of factors associated with retention in OST.

2) A descriptive cohort study of retention patterns among patients on the national OST register.

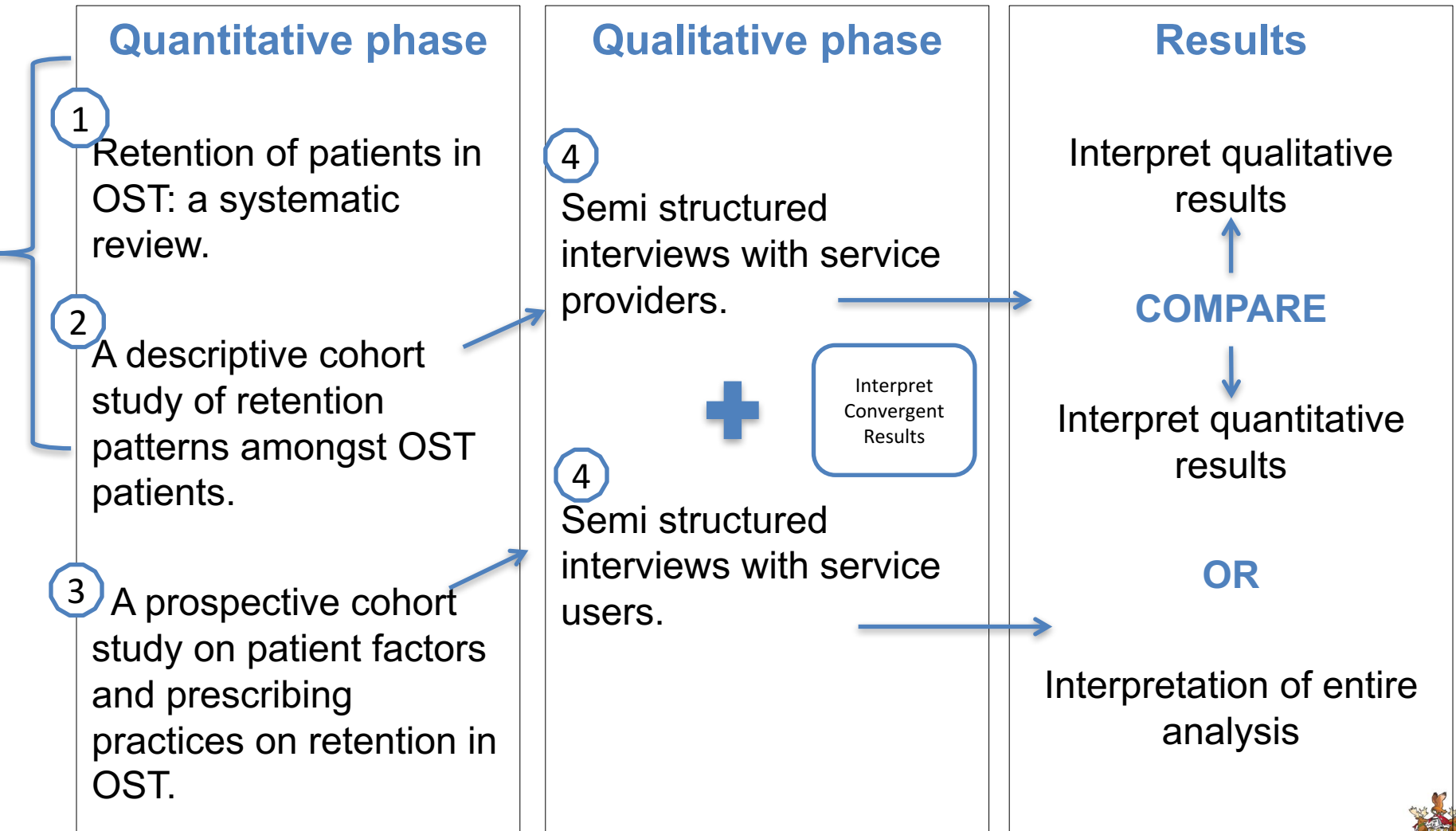


3) A prospective cohort study investigating patient factors and prescribing practices on retention in OST.

4) A qualitative exploration of the experiences of treatment cessation in OST.



SEQUENTIAL EXPLANATORY MIXED METHODS APPROACH



REFERENCES

1. Cousins G, Teljeur C, Motterlini N, McCowan C, Dimitrov BD, Fahey T. Risk of drug-related mortality during periods of transition in methadone maintenance treatment: a cohort study. *J Subst Abuse Treat.* 2011;41(3):252-60.
2. Addiction EMCfDaD. European Drug Report 2017: Trends and Developments. Luxembourg: European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction 2017.
3. Hay G, Jaddoa A, Oysten J, et al. Estimating the prevalence of problematic opiate use in Ireland using indirect statistical methods. Dublin, Forthcoming. Available at <http://www.drugsandalcohol.ie/27233/>
4. Sordo L, Barrio G, Bravo MJ, Indave BI, Degenhardt L, Wiessing L, et al. Mortality risk during and after opioid substitution treatment: systematic review and meta-analysis of cohort studies. *Bmj.* 2017;357:j1550.
5. Philip Bowen RR, Andrew Pilkington. Mixed Methods- Theory and Practice. Sequential, Explanatory Approach. *International Journal of Quantitative and Qualitative Research Methods.* 2017;5(2):10-27.