

PREGABALIN & GABAPENTIN ASSISTED WITHDRAWAL PROJECT

GO LIVE DATE MONDAY 4TH DECEMBER 2017

DO YOU KNOW...

- In the last 5 years deaths involving pregabalin or gabapentin when used with opiates are up 89%.
- The use of pregabalin and gabapentin with an opioid can cause death by slowing down your breathing and potentially stopping it completely.
- **Naloxone cannot reverse life threatening breathing problems caused by pregabalin or gabapentin.**

WHAT'S HAPPENING NEXT

- All patients who are receiving a **pregabalin** or **gabapentin** prescription alongside opiate treatment therapy Methadone/ buprenorphine or opiate based pain killers will be called for a review and reduction of your medication.
- The healthcare team will talk to you about the best way of managing your problem without pregabalin or gabapentin.
- Our main concern is to prescribe safely and to avoid harm.
- Support will be provided by healthcare and the substance misuse team, so please talk with your keyworker.
- If you do not attend your GP appointment, then your medication will be reviewed in your absence and could be stopped.

JUST A FEW OF THE
UNPLEASANT SIDE EFFECTS
AND FEELINGS THAT
PREGABALIN AND GABAPENTIN
MAY GIVE YOU:

- Life threatening breathing problems
- Irritability
- Aggression
- Anxious and on edge
- Loss of sex drive
- Blurred vision
- Increased appetite
- Addiction
- Demanding
- Erectile dysfunction
- Difficulty going to the toilet
- Confusion
- Loss of memory
- Headache