MACLURE, K., STEWART, D., BUIST, E., MCLELLAND, R., SHAW, T., MACLURE, A., CUNNINGHAM, S., MACASKILL, K. and RUSHWORTH, G. 2018. An evaluation of mental health clinical pharmacist prescribers within primary care medical practices in NHS Highland. Presented at the 47th European symposium on clinical pharmacy (ESCP 2018): personalised pharmacy care, 24-26 October 2018, Belfast, UK.

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# An evaluation of mental health clinical pharmacist prescribers within primary care medical practices in NHS Highland

K MacLure<sup>1</sup> D Stewart<sup>1</sup> E Buist<sup>2</sup> R McLelland<sup>2</sup> T Shaw<sup>2</sup> A MacLure<sup>1</sup>

- S Cunningham<sup>1</sup> K Macaskill<sup>2</sup> G Rushworth<sup>2</sup>
- 1 Robert Gordon University, Aberdeen
- 2 NHS Highland

⊠k.m.maclure@rgu.ac.uk



Highland

#### **BACKGROUND**

A pilot has been conducted during which two specialist mental health clinical pharmacist prescriber (SMHCPP) consulted with patients by appointment at one of two GP Practices.

#### **PURPOSE**

To evaluate the SMHCPP delivered pharmaceutical care to patients with anxiety and/or depression in NHS Highland.



#### **METHODS**

Both pharmacists posted out a study pack to each of their patients. Patient study packs included a questionnaire based on the CARE Measure plus 5-point Likert scale attitudinal statements all subject to statistical analysis. Ethical approval had been gained.

### **RESULTS**

Ten of 70 surveys were returned (response rate 14.3%) with an even gender split. Most were employed (n=8). Wellbeing was good (n=2), fair (n=5) or poor (n=2). All (n=10) thought the pharmacist excellent at 'making you feel at ease', 'really listening', 'being interested in you as a whole person', 'showing care and compassion', 'being positive', 'explaining things clearly'. Most said the pharmacist was excellent at 'letting you tell your story' (n=9), 'fully understanding your concerns' (n=9), 'helping you take control' (n=8) and 'making a plan of action with you' (n=7). All (n=10) strongly agreed/agreed they were 'confident that a pharmacist will prescribe as safely as a GP' also that they wanted their 'pharmacist and doctor to work together to make sure I am receiving the best treatment'. However, 'given the choice, I prefer to consult a GP rather than a pharmacist' half (n=5) were unsure, some strongly agreed (n=1)/agreed (n=1) but others strongly disagreed (n=2)/disagreed (n=1).

#### **CONCLUSIONS**

Overall, this small sample from a difficult to reach population were positive about care they received from the SMHCPP.