

# LED BY SENIORS' HEALTH SCN IN COLLABORATION WITH ADDICTION & MENTAL HEALTH SCN APPROPRIATE USE OF ANTIPSYCHOTICS

Strategic Clinical Networks (SCNs) are creating improvements within focused areas of health care.

To get the most out of our health care system, AHS has developed networks of people who are passionate and knowledgeable about specific areas of health, challenging them to find new and innovative ways of delivering care that will provide better quality, better outcomes and better value for every Albertan.

The AUA project is a key initiative of the AHS Seniors Health Strategic Clinical Network. Long term use of antipsychotics in older people with dementia is known to be harmful.

Antipsychotic use in Alberta Long Term Care (LTC) is now at 17.4 %, the lowest average in Canada. LTC teams are collaborating to solve problems and improve care.

**GOAL**  
Use antipsychotics appropriately to **IMPROVE QUALITY OF LIFE** for residents with dementia

inter-professional medication reviews

person-centred care

PROCESS

2012-2013  
**Develop Resources**

Toolkit and guidelines for clinical teams to help reduce unnecessary antipsychotic use.

2013-2014  
**Early Adopter Sites**

11 teams  
**50%** fewer residents on antipsychotics

2014-2015  
**Province-wide**

170 sites  
**14,500** beds

2014-2015  
**Innovation Collaboratives**

100 "higher use" sites identified

- Teaching and resources provided for leaders and clinical staff
- Teams submitted monthly data
- Teams equipped to lead change

2014-2015  
**AUA Toolkit**

All Alberta sites introduced to success stories, links and project resources on AHS External website.

**1500** fewer residents on antipsychotics provincially as of Quarter 4 2016

**QUALITY OF LIFE**

Residents are regaining abilities to speak, walk and assist with their own care.

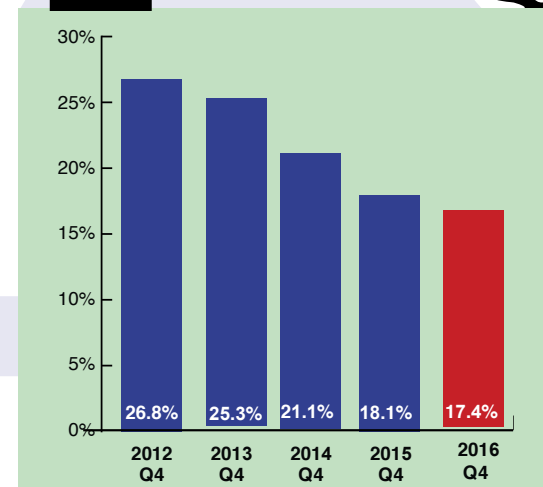
2014-2015  
**Family Engagement**

Resources for staff to engage families of residents:

- Explain reason for reducing antipsychotics
- Help family understand behaviours of residents with dementia

2016-onward  
**Future Sustainability**

- Expand to supportive Living and Acute Care
- Ongoing monitoring of antipsychotic use and quality improvement
- Enhanced education for all sites. Priority topics: supporting good sleep, delirium in residents with dementia
- Develop AUA sustainability plan



2015  
**Outcomes**

- Fewer physical/mechanical restraints
- Less pain and delirium
- Reports of aggressive behaviours remained same

