

ORION (Overdose Risk Information) develops a software tool to identify overdose risk patients.

A NICE (National Institute for Health and Care Excellence) decision analysis software programme, which was found to have benefits for hypertensive patients and their clinicians, is to be used by the ORION project to identify individuals who are at high risk for suffering a drug overdose.

The goal is to produce an assessment tool based on risk factors for overdose, identified in the current literature. The computerised tool will be easy to use and interactive for clinicians and patients to use together. This group of patients (substance using) has not previously been targeted with a decision analysis tool. The ORION tool will offer health service providers the opportunity to identify and support patients most at risk and may enable the patients to understand their risk factors and make lifestyle changes to reduce them.

Following a pilot of 10 patients in each of 4 centres in Scotland, Germany, Denmark and Italy, the software will be reviewed and modified preparatory to data collection from 160 patients across the 4 sites. This will be the first step in a wider dissemination across Europe.

Source: <http://orion-euproject.com/>