ABSTRACT

Introduction: Chronic pain is a common and complex problem amongst adults. Findings from several studies suggest that multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary model of management has the potential to provide the best care and improved outcomes for individuals with chronic pain and this approach is supported by the Canadian clinical practice guidelines. The purpose of this study is to conduct an evaluation of the chronic pain program at the Alan Edwards Pain Management Unit (AEPMU). Specific objectives are i) to create a logic model for the chronic pain program as a foundation for future evaluations and ii) to assess the characteristics of the current program.

Methods: Qualitative and quantitative methods will be used. Qualitative approach includes documentation review and semi-structured interview with team members and selected patients. The information gathered from the documents and these interviews is put into one model that will be presented to the members of the team for them to discuss, make amendments, and refine it. Data from the scheduling information system (Medi Visit) and the pain registry will be used to describe the characteristics of the clients and the proportions of clinically relevant gains based on a set of indicators (pain intensity, physical functioning, pain-related quality of life (SF-12) and satisfaction with treatment (patient global impression of change). Expected contribution: The logic model will be useful as a means of communicating the elements of the program to all the stakeholders and facilitate the implementation of a modified interdisciplinary team for chronic pain management. We hope that the findings of this pilot study will inform how the AEPMU team can use the registry for ongoing evaluation and will contribute to the improvement of the pain program of the AEPMU.