

**Connecting for Health  
Do Once and Share  
(DOAS) Project**

June 2007

Dear Colleague,

Professor Sam H Ahmedzai  
Head of Academic Supportive Care Unit  
The University of Sheffield

Sykes House  
Little Common Lane  
Off Abbey Lane  
Sheffield S11 9NE

**Do Once and Share project on Pain Assessment**

I am writing to invite you to participate in the development of a new national set of guidance about the use of instruments and other methods to assess pain. In particular, the project is about assessment of **chronic pain in adults and older children**.

This is a project within the NHS Do Once and Share (DOaS) programme. The Do Once and Share programme is working to engage and enable clinicians, healthcare providers and patients to share their knowledge, skills and experience in order to:

- ensure the best available knowledge is easily accessible
- minimise duplication and wasted time
- provide an agreed, best practice, national approach to care
- make optimum use of new IT systems and services being delivered by NHS Connecting for Health.

DOaS tries to facilitate the collaboration between clinicians, patient representatives and a large range of stakeholder groups on this complex subject. The end result of this DOaS project will be a set of recommendations and sample assessment methods for the whole spectrum of pain assessment in this disparate group.

You can find out more about the national DOaS programme by visiting this website –

<http://www.connectingforhealth.nhs.uk/systemsandservices/kps/doas>

This letter is inviting you to join the process by becoming a stakeholder. You may wish to contribute by email, or through our website (to be developed shortly).

**You are also invited to attend one or both of two national meetings that are being organised for this project.**



The dates of these meetings are –

**Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> July 2007. Time: 10.00-15.00**

**Venue: The Source, Meadowhall, Near Sheffield S9 1EA**

**Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2007. Time: 10.00-15.00**

**Venue: Harrogate Conference Centre, Harrogate HG1 5LA**

The whole project has a short timeline and will need to be completed by the end of October 2007.

For the first meeting, a draft programme is attached. In this meeting, you can

- find out more about the DOaS programme
- hear from patients and representatives about their experiences of pain assessment
- learn about pain assessment in older people
- take part in workshops relating to specific aspects of pain assessment
- share YOUR insights and experience of pain assessment.

Even if you are not able to join us for this first meeting, we would like you to participate in the work of the project by

- sending us your opinions on specific questions that will be sent out to you by email
- sharing your examples of good and not so good practice
- giving us feedback on proposed instruments, methods and other guidance as it is developed
- join us for the second consensus and approval meeting in Harrogate.

We hope you will be working with on this project. If you would prefer not to take part, please send us a one-line email back, asking to be taken off our list. Otherwise, we will assume you are interested and will keep you on our circulation list.

Looking forward to your input,



Sam H Ahmedzai

Professor of Palliative Medicine, The University of Sheffield  
Clinical Lead, DOaS project on Pain Assessment

#### **Other project personnel**

Acting project manager:

Informatics manager:

Secretary:

Annie McIntosh email: [ann.mcintosh@healthlogicsolutions.com](mailto:ann.mcintosh@healthlogicsolutions.com)

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*Connecting for Health*  
**Do Once and Share (DOAS) Project on Pain  
Assessment**

**First stakeholder event to be held on  
18<sup>th</sup> July 2007  
At the Source, Meadowhall, Sheffield**

- 9.30:**       **Registration and coffee**
- 10.00:**      **Welcome - Professor Sam H Ahmedzai** – Introduction  
to pain assessment project
- 10.15:**      **Helen Hood** – Introduction to national *Do Once and  
Share* programme
- 10.30:**      **Pat Schofield** – Pain assessment in older people
- 11.00:**      **Coffee**
- 11.30:**      **Group work I: *What are we looking for in a 'pain  
assessment' tool?***
- 12.30:**      **Lunch**
- 13.30:**      **Patient and carer views**
- 14.00:**      **Group work II: *Pain assessment in specific situations***
- 15.00:**      **Feedback and discussion**
- 15.20:**      **The next steps**

For directions to The Source please go to  
[www.thesource.meadowhall.co.uk](http://www.thesource.meadowhall.co.uk)

