

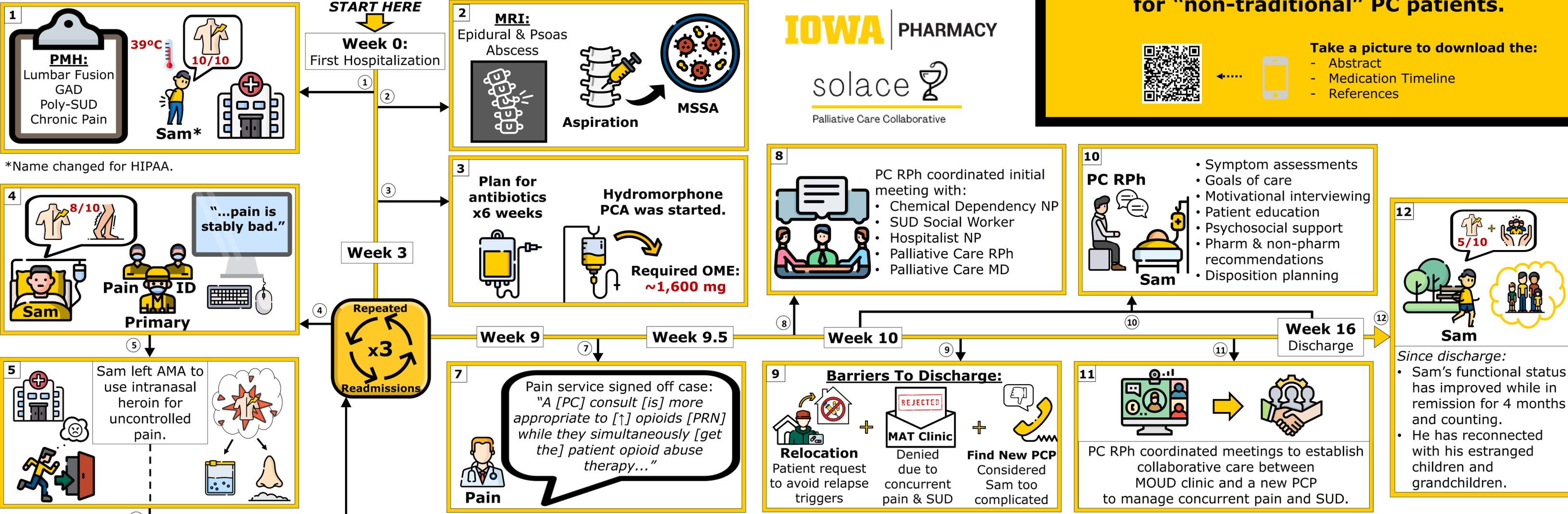
# Channeling the Spirit of Dame Cicely Saunders for the “Stably Bad” Patient

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## BACKGROUND:

In the age of the opioid epidemic, patients with substance use disorders (SUD) often experience stigma in healthcare systems, adding medical barriers on already complex social situations.<sup>1</sup> This population with concurrent chronic pain are subject to undertreated symptoms, which may impact their likelihood of engaging in maintenance therapy and risk for overall harm.<sup>2,3,4</sup>

**CASE DESCRIPTION:** The case is presented in the format of an infographic timeline with chronological panel numbers at the top left corner.



**Members of IP PC teams can directly apply valuable PC skillsets they gain through IP training and practice in multidisciplinary settings to advocate for holistic, person-centered care, especially for “non-traditional” PC patients.**

Take a picture to download the:  
- Abstract  
- Medication Timeline  
- References

**IOWA PHARMACY**  
**solace**  
Palliative Care Collaborative

## DISCUSSION:

- Interprofessional teams are the embodiment of Dame Cicely Saunderson’s philosophy through providing holistic approaches to patient care.
- For patients with SUD, suffering is amplified by stigma. Effective symptom management and holistic care is quintessential in the management of total pain, especially for “stably bad” patients.
- HAPC pharmacists are integral team members with specialized training and practice experiences capable of implementing multifaceted palliative care skills.
- HAPC pharmacists can effectively provide holistic patient care in the spirit of Dame Cicely Saunders to support and expand palliative care services, especially in settings of high workload (i.e. COVID).

## PATIENT QUOTE:

**“You listened to me and helped my pain when no one else has. I know if I continue with this, I will die. I just needed someone to help me. I’m grateful. You saved my life, I’m serious. I’ve always done things myself and for others, I’ve never had anyone help me before. I actually feel that I have another chance at life.”**

**REFERENCES:** Available on web link above. Images by FlatIcon.