



Scottish Managed Clinical Network for Children With Complex Mental Health Needs

www.childrenNmind.scot.nhs.uk

Newsletter

Volume One, Issue 2

July 2008

PRACTICE EXCHANGE A SUCCESS

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The first network Practice Exchange, which had the theme Autistic Spectrum Disorders (ASD), was a success according to the evaluation forms filled in by attendees.



The meeting took place in May 2008 in the Telemedicine Suite of Yorkhill Hospital, with people from Edinburgh and Falkirk dialling in to contribute to the meeting via teleconferencing. The interest in attending the meeting was such that the network had to limit places. A total of nineteen multi-disciplinary professionals attended as well as a parent representative.

The theme of the meeting was ASD. The discussion was fairly informal with the

Chair of the meeting, Dr Alasdair Hosking, asking whether anyone had anything in particular they would like to discuss. The four topics of discussion brought up were: children with ASD at the more able end of the spectrum remaining in mainstream education; managing complex cases, models and diagnosis; assessment and; complexity.

Attendees were given evaluation forms about the Practice Exchange to fill in in order for the Practice Exchange Planning Group to learn and

organise effective future Practice Exchange meetings. The results were generally very positive with 81% of attendees saying they would most likely come to a future Practice Exchange meeting.

If you would like a copy of the minutes from this meeting or the evaluation results please contact the network office.

Please see page 3 for future Practice Exchange meetings.

WEBSITE

The Network is proud to announce that its website is now under development.

The name for the website is www.childrenNmind.scot.nhs.uk. There was much debate over the name of the website from steering group members. Other contenders for the name were *colourful children* and *kids N mind*. It was eventually decided that the

name of the website would be *children N mind* because the word 'children' is in the network title.

The website planning is underway and when fully functional it will include descriptions of the network and its sub groups, sections for professionals and service users, an area where MCN papers will be posted and contact details for the network office.

The network is currently establishing a website sub group who will be responsible for deciding the content, format and so on of the website. If you would like to join this group, or if you have any ideas for the website, please get in touch with the network office.

ANNUAL REPORT

The MCN has now submitted its annual report to NHS National Services Division, to whom the MCN is accountable.

The report details the performance of the MCN from when the network was launched in August 2007 to the end of financial year in March 2008. It covers how the network has progressed through its

steering group, Practice Exchange Planning sub group and Service User Participation sub group. It also lays out the MCN's plans for the future as well as including the MCN work plan and a financial report in its appendices.

If you would like to see the annual report please contact the network office who will be happy to forward you a copy.



NEW MCN MANAGER

We are pleased to announce that Marianne Hayward is now the MCN Manager of this Network. Marianne is also the overall head of the MCN department at Yorkhill Children's Hospital.

Marianne's previous post was MCN manager for the Greater Glasgow and Clyde Diabetes MCN based in Dalian House, Glasgow. Marianne said: " I have had some initial meetings with some of the people involved in the network and am excited by everyone's

enthusiasm and commitment. I am really looking forward to being involved with the CAMHS MCN".

SERVICE USER PARTICIPATION FRAMEWORK

The MCN Office recently watched a presentation on Service User Participation given by Pauline Fletcher, User Involvement Development Officer, NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde PFPI Forum. As part of this, Pauline explained that she has produced a Service User

Participation framework. She has kindly consented to the Network Office adapting the framework to use.

The Service User Participation framework provides guidance and direction for Specialist Children's Services MCNs to ensure service user

participation is integral to MCN business, reflects national and local policy and MCN priorities.

If you are interested in seeing the framework please contact the Network Office and we will forward you a copy.

FUTURE PRACTICE EXCHANGE MEETINGS

The next Practice Exchange meeting will take place on Thursday 28th August 2008 with the theme *Broader Communication Between Services*. The meeting is particularly interested at looking at this theme from a Speech and Language Therapist point of view. If you would like to attend this meeting please contact the

Network Office.

After the August meeting the next four meetings lined up are:

- September – Eating Disorders in Children
- October – ADHD: Non Pharmaceutical Interventions/Service
- November – Learning Disabilities

- December – Paediatric Liaison

If you are interested in attending any of these meetings please register your interest with the network office who will contact you when meeting dates are arranged.

SERVICE USER PARTICIPATION TRAINING DAY

Unfortunately the Service User Participation Training Day, which was scheduled for Friday 13th June, had to be cancelled due to unforeseen circumstances.

However, the Service User Participation working group is working to reschedule the training day for Autumn 2008 and plans to make it even bigger and better than originally intended!

This event is open to CAMHS staff, the MCN steering group, members of the Royal College of Psychiatrists and lead clinicians for psychology. The event aims to educate attendees about involving children who have complex mental health needs and their families in the services they receive. The event will clearly define participation, develop a shared understanding by putting

participation in a rights based context, promote best practice and offer practical tools for putting participation into practice.

Interested? Contact the network office and register your interest early! Also keep a look out for the flyers, posters and booking forms for the event which will be circulated in the near future.

PARENT FORUM

The Network is happy to announce that they are setting up a Parent Forum as part of the Service User Participation working group.

Marianne, the network manager, is meeting up with some parent representatives this month to get the forum up and running. It is intended that the forum will be an opportunity for parents of

children with complex and severe mental health needs to come together and chat informally about their experiences. The network hopes that by starting off quite small, the forum will grow and parents will be able to benefit from talking to other families in similar situations to their own.

The Service User Participation working group is keen to have more input from patients and parents so that they can be

more focussed in what they're trying to achieve and for whom. If you are interested in joining this group or know of anyone who would be interested please contact the network office.

NETWORK CONTACTS

Network Office

MCN Department
9th Floor
Queen Mother's Hospital
RHSC Yorkhill
Dalnair Street
Glasgow
G3 8SJ

Tel. 0141 232 1850

Lead Clinician

Sandra Duke
Email: sandraduke@nhs.net

Network Chair

Sally Kuenssberg
Email: sally@kuenssberg.co.uk

Network Manager

Marianne Hayward
Email: marianne.hayward@ggc.scot.nhs.uk

Network Administrator

Jennifer Hogg
Email: jennifer.hogg@ggc.scot.nhs.uk

