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Subject: Valuing Nursing in the North West - Project Update
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NW England Mental Health and Learning Disability Trusts - Directors of Nursing Network



Project Newsletter

Edition 2, July 2014

Promoting the value and context of nursing

Focus on Reflective Practice

Developing options for guided reflective practice to improve the quality and consistency of the nursing offer

Welcome to the second edition of the North West DoNs Network project aimed at promoting the value and context of Nursing. In this edition we focus on the work done in relation to Reflective Practice (Area 2).

The initial work is now complete and individual Trusts have been invited to consider the 7 recommendations with a view to local implementation. You can read the full report [here](#)

What are the key issues?

- There is clear evidence that a process whereby nurses take time out to consider the outcomes from their work, in a structured way, has huge benefits for service quality. However, in practice, this is not being done
- there are several reasons for this but, critically, there has been an underlying concern about the prevailing model – Clinical Supervision. The report proposes an alternative approach based on the principles of ‘guided reflective practice’

What are the key messages?

- Trusts should adopt ‘Schwartz Rounds’ as a way of supporting and engaging staff in discussions about the challenging psychosocial and emotional issues that arise in caring for patients

The 4 areas of development

Area 1

Inspiring cultural change through leadership and training.

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Area 2

Developing options for guided reflective practice to improve the quality and consistency of the nursing offer.

Ian Trodden

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Area 3

Improving physical health care for Mental Health and Learning Disability service users.

Gail Briers

Director of Nursing and

issues that arise in caring for patients

- Influenced by these discussions, Trusts should pilot the use of part of 'handover time' for the purpose of reflection using (and adapting) a version of the supervision model developed at Calderstones Partnership NHS Trust
- Directors of Nursing in both provider Trusts and Clinical Commissioning Groups should collaborate to devise a means of strengthening nurse leadership *on clinically and care focused matters*.
- Involvement in reflective practice should be incentivised
- Nurse leaders should consider establishing a clearly defined clinical leader in each ward

What happens next?

- The report recognises that each of the 9 Trusts is starting from a different place so they will want to assess the impact of these recommendations against the progress already made
- Trusts can continue to collaborate in implementing any change (such as the joint commissioning of facilitators to undertake the Schwartz Rounds). [Ian Trodden](#) will be the first point of call.

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Area 4

Developing common
principles to guide nurse
staffing levels and skill
mix.

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Participating Trusts

5 Boroughs Partnership NHS Foundation Trust

Calderstones Partnership NHS Foundation Trust

Cheshire and Wirral Partnership NHS
Foundation Trust

Cumbria Partnership NHS Foundation Trust

Greater Manchester West Mental Health NHS
Foundation Trust

Lancashire Care NHS Foundation Trust

Manchester Mental Health and Social Care
NHS Trust

Mersey Care NHS Trust

Pennine Care NHS Foundation Trust

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