

Publication Summary



Scottish ECT Accreditation Network Annual Report 2015

A summary of ECT in Scotland in 2014

17 November 2015

About this Release

This report summarises data collected from all Electroconvulsive Therapy (ECT) treatment clinics in Scotland for 2014. Data are presented in relation to patient characteristics, legal status, diagnosis, interventions and clinical outcomes.

Key Points

- In 2014 there were 357 patients who received ECT, relating to 434 episodes of treatment.
- The most common diagnosis of patients receiving ECT was depression in the context of both major depressive disorder and its various manifestations.
- The most common indication remains resistance to antidepressant medication (56%). For one in ten patients ECT was administered as an emergency life saving treatment. The majority of treatments involved those patients deemed to have capacity to give informed consent (65%).
- 75% of patients who completed an episode of ECT showed significant improvement.
- 72% of patients with capacity displayed significant improvement following treatment, compared with 82% of the patients who lacked capacity, reflecting the more severe nature of the illness in the latter group at the outset.
- The most frequently recorded side effect remains headache (25%).
- There were a total of 9 critical incidents reported (0.2% of all treatments).

Background

The Scottish Electroconvulsive Therapy (ECT) Accreditation Network (SEAN) is a national clinical accreditation network with membership which includes Consultant Psychiatrists, Consultant Anaesthetists, ECT Nurses, Operating Department Practitioners and Recovery Nurses. The Steering Group in addition has representatives from the Scottish Government and the Mental Welfare Commission for Scotland. There is also a SEAN Reference Group consisting of service users, carers & service users agencies which provides feedback and advice on care and treatment from the patient and carer's perspective. The CONECTS sub-group (Committee of Nurses at ECT in Scotland), for all nurses involved with the delivery of ECT, aims to enhance the quality of care through continual education.

SEAN strives to deliver the three Quality Ambitions outlined in the Healthcare Quality Strategy for NHS Scotland; **patient-centred**, **safe** and **effective** care. As well as reporting annually on data collected from ECT clinics, SEAN continues its remit to audit and provide accreditation to ECT services in Scotland.

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Further Information

Further information can be found in the [full report](#)  [808 Kb], on the [SEAN website](#) or on the [ISD website](#).

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