



Hello again!

1/ Please find the March 2005 newsletter attached. This contains some details of what we worked on last month, and a chart showing Number of residents in psychiatric units on specific dates (at 31 March 1991-2001), by length of stay at those dates.

2] In line with the Scottish Executive Health Department's national priorities, mental health is one of the core themes of the NHS Quality Improvement Scotland (NHS QIS) work programme. NHS QIS has now developed a draft strategic framework: Improving mental health services in Scotland. The proposed strategy gives a context within which a coherent approach to the work of NHS QIS can be developed, with the aim of delivering better outcomes for all those using mental health services. The strategic framework is being issued for consultation to get as much feedback from stakeholders as possible: the consultation process will remain open until the 27 June 2005. You can find the document and the consultation response (which can be completed online) at <[http://www.nhshealthquality.org/nhsqis/qis\\_display\\_findings.jsp?pContentID=2315](http://www.nhshealthquality.org/nhsqis/qis_display_findings.jsp?pContentID=2315)> [if the link breaks to two lines you may need to paste it back together yourself]

3] On the 4th of May ASH Scotland is hosting Scotland's first ever national symposium on tobacco and mental health. This is a major challenge from the public health improvement agenda and this event should appeal to those involved in public and mental health, as well as those involved in tobacco control. It is anticipated that this symposium will form the beginning of national action and planning in this area. For more details see

[http://www.ashscotland.org.uk/ash/ash\\_display.jsp?pContentID=4163&p\\_applic=CCC&p\\_service=Content.show&](http://www.ashscotland.org.uk/ash/ash_display.jsp?pContentID=4163&p_applic=CCC&p_service=Content.show&).

4] The National Institute for Clinical Excellence (in England) has published guidance to help the NHS recognise and treat people who develop Post traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) after traumatic events. Although this has no official standing in Scotland readers may find it interesting. See <[http://www.nice.org.uk/pdf/2005\\_007\\_launch\\_of\\_PTSD.pdf](http://www.nice.org.uk/pdf/2005_007_launch_of_PTSD.pdf)> or <<http://www.nice.org.uk/page.aspx?o=248114>> for further details.

5] An e-book entitled "We're Still Waiting!": Deaf people's experiences of the struggle to improve their health and wellbeing, by James Henderson and Jeremy Weston, has just been published. In this book, funded by the Scottish Executive Health Department, deaf people discuss discrimination that they face in all areas of life, and the daily consequences this discrimination has for their health, wellbeing and quality of life. The book (3.2Mb) can be downloaded at <[http://www.shstrust.org.uk/book\\_08.htm](http://www.shstrust.org.uk/book_08.htm)>.

6] The Integrated Care Pathway Users in Scotland (ICPUS) group are holding their tenth meeting in Glasgow on 18 May. This will feature a session on 'getting started' with ICPs in mental health and a presentation on the ICP for Schizophrenia developed in Glasgow. For further information please contact [rosie.cameron@glacomen.scot.nhs.uk](mailto:rosie.cameron@glacomen.scot.nhs.uk)

and to attend please contact [anna.sweeney@glacomen.scot.nhs.uk](mailto:anna.sweeney@glacomen.scot.nhs.uk)

7] The Chief Medical Officer's report for 2005 was published a couple of weeks ago. It contains material on both mental health (see <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/library5/health/his04-06.asp>) and eHealth (see <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/library5/health/his04-07.asp>).

8] The Spring 2005 edition of Research Matters (the newsletter of the Chief Scientist Office at the Scottish Executive Health Department) is now available. It contains a report on the West of Scotland Mental Health Research Programme. See <http://www.show.scot.nhs.uk/cso/Publications/rm28/rm28.pdf> for more details.

9] As always, previous editions of the Improving Mental Health Information Programme newsletter are available at our web site (see <http://www.isdscotland.org/imhipnews>). The website (<http://www.isdscotland.org/imhip>) also includes details of pioneer local projects and relevant policy links.

10] If you know anyone else who might be interested to receive this e-mailed newsletter once a month encourage them to sign-up by e-mailing [karen.brown@isd.csa.scot.nhs.uk](mailto:karen.brown@isd.csa.scot.nhs.uk). Why not forward them this e-mail to let them know this newsletter exists? We are particularly keen to improve our profile with GPs and practice team members.

11] If at any time you wish to be removed from this distribution list, wish further information on any of our activities or have comments, however critical, about anything we say or do please get in touch ([alastair.philp@nhs.net](mailto:alastair.philp@nhs.net)). We will only improve mental health information if we work together and keep talking!