



Hello again,

Greetings on World Mental Health Day, and welcome to the October 2006 e-newsletter from the Improving Mental Health Information Programme. For more about Mental Health Week see <http://www.wellscotland.info>.

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1] What have we been doing? Graph of the month...

Please find the October 2006 newsletter attached. This contains some details of our activities, and a chart showing 'Number of defined daily doses per 1000 population (age 60+) per day for drugs for dementia in Scotland; 1996/97 to 2004/05'

2] Your comments on our progress: please speak to us!

As part of our commemoration of being active on the mental health information scene for five years we would like to hear your views on our programme. Please send us a one line (or more) e-mail to tell us what you have found useful in our programme's activities. We are interested in

opinions, positive and negative, on: this newsletter; our dataset work; or our work with service users, care professionals, managers and informal carers to promote collection, sharing and use of information; In fact anything you want to tell us about anything we have done will be welcome. A selection of these comments, anonymised if you prefer, will be used in a presentation at our annual conference on Nov 16 this year. Please let us know what you think!

3] Improving Mental Health Information Programme Conference - iMHIP06 - fully booked. Let us know if you now can't come, please!

The conference is now fully subscribed and we are operating a waiting list. So, if you have registered and find yourself unable to join us please let us know so we can re-allocate the place to someone wanting, and waiting, to attend.

4] Changes to the iMHIP06 programme

We have made a number of small amendments to the programme. The Mental Welfare Commission will now give a presentation on 'Improving the quality of information for monitoring the use of the Mental Health Act' instead of the scheduled talk on the previously scheduled talk on 'Gathering information for management and planning from clinical communications: establishing a Secondary Uses Service in Scotland that supports mental health care.' And we are adding two new discussion topics (tentatively titled 'information to support appropriate care for minority groups' and 'Information to support services for those with dementia and their carers'), following suggestions from delegates. We will be writing to all those who have registered to offer them the opportunity to switch their first choice discussion topic to one of these new themes but if you can't wait to tell us you'd like to change please contact us!

5] British Computer Society Health Informatics Conference

the British Computer Society Health Informatics Scotland and Nursing specialist groups are organising a conference on Fr 24 Nov 06 in Glasgow. This multidisciplinary conference is intended to provide information and networking opportunities for anyone involved in or interested in the eHealth agenda, i.e., everyone. The themes will be Clinical Engagement, Knowledge Management, and Telehealth. For further information contact fiona.black@isd.csa.scot.nhs.uk.

6] Choose Life evaluation report published

A report of an evaluation of the infrastructure put in place (nationally and locally) to support the Choose Life suicide prevention strategy has been published. The report comments on progress to date and makes recommendations to guide the next phase of the action plan. The recommendations focus primarily on: future investment in suicide prevention; mainstreaming at national and local levels; targeting of action; strategic integration of self-harm; the role of Community Planning Partnerships; and options for delivering the central coordination function. For more details see <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2006/09/06094657/0> (full report) or <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2006/09/06094756/0> (summary of research findings).

7] Health Committee of the Scottish Parliament inquire into the mental health budget

This year, in their investigation of the Scottish Executive health budget, the Health Committee of the Scottish Parliament has decided to focus upon mental health. The Committee commissioned research into spending on mental health by all area health boards, and more detailed interviews with three boards representing a range of local circumstances. A report on this was presented to the committee (see <http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/business/committees/health/papers-06/hep06-21.pdf>). The three boards singled out for special attention, and other representatives from the broader mental health community, participated in a round table discussion with the committee on 3 Oct. This was followed by an evidence session with the Deputy Minister for Health and Community Care. For more details, including a transcript of the meeting, see <http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/business/committees/health/index.htm>.

8] New publications from the Scottish Executive about the New Mental Health Act for service users and informal carers

- A guide to the appeals process - information for service users and their carers. <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2006/10/02111231/0>
- A guide to the role of the mental health officer - Information for service users and their carers. <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2006/10/02095357/0>
- An Introduction to the Mental Health Tribunal for Scotland - Information for Service Users and their Carers. <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2006/07/26103046/0>
- The New Mental Health Act: Putting Principles into Practice - Information for Service Users and their Carers. <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2006/04/24114114/0>
- The New Mental Health Act: Rights of Carers - information for people who care for a service user. <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2006/10/02103804/0>

9] Integrated Care Pathways (ICPs) in mental health

ICPs are tools that allow the comparison of planned care with the care actually given and are one of the means set out in Delivering for Health for improving mental health services. NHS Quality Improvement Scotland (NHS QIS) is developing national standards for ICPs in mental health and a toolkit for ICP development. NHS QIS will accredit local implementation of ICPs based on evidence of variance recording leading to improvements in services. NHS QIS is working closely with all stakeholders, including IMHIP to ensure wide acceptance of and a coordinated approach to ICPs. More details about the ICP project are available at <http://www.nhshealthquality.org/mentalhealth> where you can download the first ICP Newsletter and find information about the upcoming ICP conference on 23 October.

10] Solutions and outcomes in commissioning... it is possible.

Primary Care Mental Health and Education (PRIMHE) are organising a conference on mental health commissioning on 30 October in Manchester. The event promises to help in "identifying how we can deliver innovation through an integrated approach to care that shares a clear vision: the promotion of full recovery or our service users." For more details see <http://www.primhe.org/files/Conference%20email1.pdf>

11] Mental Health Improvement Network

Following a series of workshops across Scotland on mental health improvement evidence and evaluation, supported by NHS Health Scotland, the Scottish Development Centre (SDC) for Mental Health is proposing to set up a Mental Health Improvement Network. This will enable people who have an interest in mental health improvement to discuss and debate key current issues, exchange information and strengthen the development of policy, practice and research. SDC would like to hear whether you want to join this Network and how you would like to be involved. For more details see <http://www.sdcmh.org.uk/news/news07mhin.html>.

12] First Instalment of the Scottish Recovery Network Narrative Report Released

After a year of investigation, interpretation and analysis, the first instalment of "narrative research findings" from work by the Scottish Recovery Network (SRN; <http://www.scottishrecovery.net>) throughout Scotland in April-June of 2005 is now available. This is the first of a series of thematic reports which looks at issues around 'recovering identity.' For more details visit http://www.scottishrecovery.net/content/default.asp?page=s7_1&newsid=791&back=s7

13] New Local Recovery Network Leaflets available on-line

Outside the Box in partnership with the Scottish Recovery Network have published two more Local Recovery Network Leaflets. The first leaflet investigates starting a network from people's lived experiences and the second discusses how to put together a Local Recovery Network. For more information see http://www.scottishrecovery.net/content/default.asp?page=s4_4_1

14] Direct Payments For Self-Directed Care: Draft Policy and Practice Guidance

The Scottish Executive are looking for your views on new draft guidance on direct payments for self-directed care, which may be used by certain categories of people to buy community care and

children's services that they are assessed as needing. The consultation letter lists a summary of expectations of local authorities within sections of the proposed guidance. Section 13 of the draft policy and practice guidance may be of particular interest: it addresses direct payments for users of mental health services (see <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2006/09/28113843/18>). Once finally approved the new guidance will be issued under Section 5(1) of the Social Work (Scotland) Act 1968 and will replace the earlier policy guidance issued on 20 Jun 2003. The closing date for responses is Thursday 21 December 2006.

15] Update on the Mental Health Delivery Plan

The second Mental Health Delivery Plan stakeholder event took place in Edinburgh on 8th September 2006. The event, attended by around 200 delegates, concentrated on three main areas of the draft Plan: Behaviours, Cultures and Values; the Functions of a Mental Health Service; and Commitments and measurement. Delegates were encouraged to provide feedback on the ideas produced so far under these headings which would be fed into a report from the day as well as be considered for inclusion within the plan itself where appropriate. Work on the plan continues and it will be launched in December in Glasgow. Although this is significant milestone in relation to the work, the December event will also allow us to engage with stakeholders about the next phase of the work which is the planning in preparation for the implementation and support programme from April 2007 until 2010. For more details contact dianne.tullis@scotland.gsi.gov.uk.

16] WellScotland.info - National programme e-bulletin for October 06

The National Programme for Improving Mental Health and Well-being (see <http://www.wellscotland.info/news/index.html>) have issued another e-bulletin that carries news, events and developments from the National Programme. It has items about: whether Jemma (diarist) would choose not to be bipolar; the Deputy Health Minister urging MSPs to talk more about suicide; SUPPORT, an innovative EU public health project led by the Scottish Development Centre (SDC); how to access materials developed to accompany the Stephen Fry programmes "The Secret Life of a Manic Depressive"; and football pundits who are supporting talking about suicide to help save lives.

17] SCIMP advice on use of mental health READ codes

Scottish Clinical Information Management in Practice (SCIMP) are advising GPs to check the codes they are using to code mental health problems and avoid using any READ code beginning with E112 for patients with depression. Otherwise the Quality and Outcome Framework (QOF) will pick up these patients and label them incorrectly as psychotic.. For further advice please see the searches and code lists on the SCIMP website: <http://www.scimp.scot.nhs.uk>.

18] Emergency Care Framework for Children and Young People in Scotland

The Scottish Executive have published an Emergency Care Framework for Children and Young People in Scotland. This includes a section on vulnerability that contains guidance on dealing with cases of self-harm. For more details see <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2006/09/19153348/0>

19] Well? What do you think? Survey of public attitudes to mental health, mental well-being and mental health problems

The Scottish Executive has just commissioned the third national survey of public attitudes to mental health, mental well-being and mental health problems. This survey was designed in 2002 to track the progress of mental health improvement policy implementation throughout Scotland. A team of researchers from Ipsos MORI and Stirling University will carry out the survey and findings are expected to be published in late summer 2007.

20] Suicide Information, Research and Evidence Network (SIREN) inaugural conference

Scotland's Suicide Information, Research and Evidence Network (SIREN) held its inaugural conference at the Royal Museum in Edinburgh last week, bringing together front line workers, academics and policy planners to share different perspectives on how Scotland might reduce

deaths by suicide. The conference was opened by Lewis Macdonald, Deputy Minister for Health and Community Care and the keynote address was delivered by Professor Keith Hawton, Director of the Centre for Suicide Research at the University of Oxford. Delegates also heard other leading researchers in the field, as well as from a number of practitioners from a range of agencies such as the Police, Psychiatry and the Scottish Prison Service. Abstracts of all the oral and poster presentations can be found at <http://www.chooselife.net/web/site/ResearchandReviews/SIRENEvents.asp>

21] Mental Health Nursing Forum Conference and Mental Health Nursing awards

The Mental Health Nursing Forum Scotland inaugural conference and national mental health nursing awards ceremony will be held at The Dementia Services Development Centre, University of Stirling on Monday 6th November 2006. The theme of the conference echoes the recent report of the National Review of Mental Health Nursing in Scotland: Delivering Rights, Relationships and Recovery Based Practice. The forum comprises senior nurse leaders in practice, managerial, research and higher education roles but the conference is open to all interested. For more details of the conference, and to book a place please contact robert.davidson@gartnavel.gla.ac.uk.

22] Back issues available at iMHIP website

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 all our projects and relevant policy links.

23] Spread the word

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. Why not forward them this e-mail to let them know this newsletter exists? We are particularly keen to improve our profile with service users and informal carers, and with GPs and practice team members (among others).

24] What do YOU think? Had enough?

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. We will only improve mental health information if we work together and keep talking!

best wishes,

Karen Brown

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