

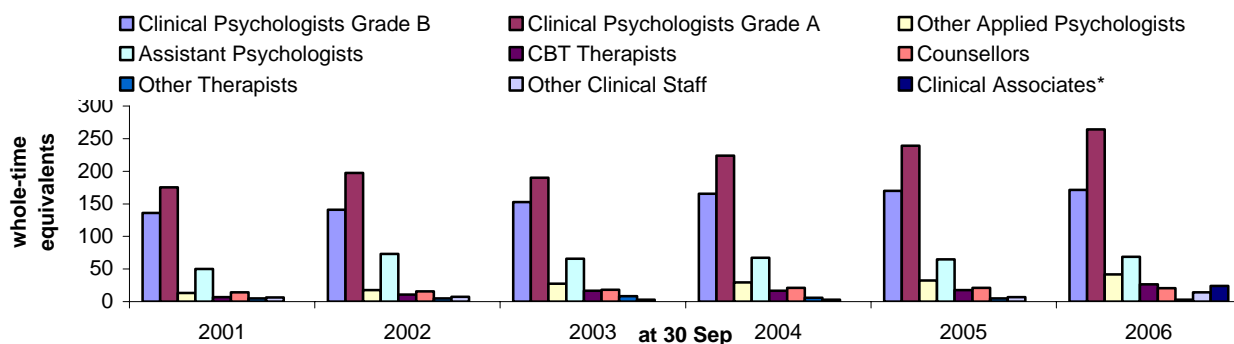


Delivering our aims

We continue to believe that better information allows better decisions to be taken and better care to be delivered. The programme is working to achieve this aim through a number of activities that are laid out at [our website](#). For more details contact alastair.philp@isd.csa.scot.nhs.uk or follow the [links](#) below.

Improving access to nationally consistent information: graph of the month

Whole-time equivalent of all Clinical Staff in Psychology Services in NHS Scotland at 30th September 2001-2006



A new 1 year Masters level training has been developed to equip graduate psychologists with the competencies required to deliver evidence based psychological interventions for common mental health problems presenting in adults in a primary care setting. The first cohort started in January 2005, and all 25 who passed took up employment in NHS Scotland psychology service during 2006 as Clinical Associates.

This data is derived from the NES-ISD Scotland Psychology Workforce Planning Project. For more details see http://www.isdscotland.org/wf_psychology.

New national data standards and systems to support individualised care

We are still working on the reports of the projects that ran last year to test the [Information Core for Integrated Care \(ICIC\)](#) and the [Psychiatric Inpatient Clinical Discharge Summary Information Set \(PIC-DSIS\)](#). For more details on these reports and our future plans to introduce these to routine practice please contact alastair.philp@isd.csa.scot.nhs.uk or Margaret.Mason@isd.csa.scot.nhs.uk.

One of the key findings from these dataset projects was that participants in the testing felt the information technology systems they were using were not capable of supporting them to routinely collect, share and use such detailed clinical data. In collaboration with NHS [Quality Improvement Scotland](#), a high level description of what system functions are required has been prepared by an expert group. The draft description and a questionnaire has been circulated to NHS boards that provide mental health services. This work will support a pioneer project that plans to use the Generic Clinical System Toolkit to develop an IT system to support the care of patients within Dumfries & Galloway. Parallel work has also started for community nursing and the two statements of requirements will be compared to establish core areas of alignment that can be tackled first. The specification will also serve as a start for requirements for future community system procurements, support the design of systems to support Integrated Care Pathways, and form a basis for plans to get quality improvement and management information from clinical/ care streams.

Revisions to current data streams

A group, chaired by Pat McGorry from NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde, and supported by colleagues within ISD, has begun to examine what changes may be required to update the national admission and discharge record (SMR04). We are considering changes in ways services are now delivered and new laws. Proposals from the group will be circulated for comment later this year. For further details contact themina.mohammed@isd.csa.scot.nhs.uk.

Supporting national policy developments

We have continued work in support of the measures laid out in [Delivering for Mental Health](#). This includes further work on the [readmissions target](#) and comparison of definitions developed for benchmarking with existing national definitions.