Outcomes Count

Re-designing the community Indicator of Relative Need (ioRN2)

Publication Date – 25 July 2017

About this release

This report explains the initiative taken to re-design the original Indicator of Relative Need or ioRN, resulting in a new version called ioRN2. The report describes:

- the reasons the initiative to develop the ioRN was undertaken

- the active role of experienced operational staff, across a range of backgrounds, and information experts in re-designing, testing and reviewing the ioRN2 tool. The involvement of many front-line staff across different parts of Scotland is also evidenced in the report.

The report provides visual examples of the various outputs possible from ioRN2 to illustrate the potential that implementation would bring. Among the analyses presented are the outcomes of care provided in intermediate care and in reablement – important approaches to care delivery that ensure that people are well supported during their recovery and restoration of independence, for example, after a prolonged spell in hospital.

The report acknowledges that this report is an important stage but the full benefits of ioRN2 will only accrue if the adoption of the tool continues. This will mean that standard systems and organisations need to embrace the tool and facilitate its widespread use.

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Background

Health, social care and housing are at the front line of challenges presented by an ageing population and a care profession under pressure. Meeting these challenges calls for good information that both supports front line staff and is useful to those who plan and organise care.

The Indicator of Relative Need or ioRN is a data collection tool (originally designed in 2003) by and for health and care professionals. By addressing how independently people function and the outcomes of care and support offered this tool offers important information that is possible to gather routinely.

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Contact

Peter Knight
Head of Service for Integration Support
Information Services Division
Peter.knight7@nhs.net
Tel. 0131 275 6461

Find out more

The Information Services Division publishes a range of resources on the community ioRN.

Further information can be found in the Outcomes Count Report and on the ISD Health and Social Community Care webpage.

Corresponding information on the version of the ioRN used in care homes (the Augmented ioRN) is available from http://www.isdscotland.org/Health-Topics/Health-and-Social-Community-Care/Care-Homes/Staffing-Model/