

AIMHS Mental Health Forum Group
Thursday 17th April 2014
Koco Building, Spon End, 10.30am – 12.30pm

Present: 22 Attendees

1. Welcome

Karen Keates, AIMHS welcomed everyone to the Forum.

2. Apologies

Two apologies were received.

3. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising and the minutes of the last meeting were agreed as true.

4. Speakers: Celine McCrea from CWPT – Speaker on Care Clusters

Since April 2014 changes have taken place in the way mental health services are delivered. Service users will now be allocated to one of 21 mental health “clusters” divided into three main groups:

- (i) Non-psychotic – this includes conditions such as anxiety, depression, OCD, personality disorders and phobias.
- (ii) Psychotic
- (iii) Organic – dementia

Care clusters are based on need and NOT diagnosis and have been developed by clinicians and service users to provide a more standardized and evidence-based service.

All-in-all there are 20 Care Clusters (number nine is no longer in use). Timescales are given for each one, for example, fourteen, entitled “Psychotic Crisis”, indicates that a service user would be in it for approximately 8-12 weeks, with a review every four weeks.

Core interventions will be standard for each cluster but there will also be specific ones concerned with housing, financial, physical health matters etc.

So far all Band 6 staff, psychiatrists and psychologists have been trained in the new system, which includes a decision-making tree and a database.

The Care Clusters system will be monitored by use of two measures, namely clinician and patient reported outcomes. At the moment there is a national survey taking place about service users’ experience of mental health services, although no-one present had been contacted about this.

AMHAT (Arden Mental Health Assessment Team)

This is a service that started last August for people presenting with mental health problems at A and E departments at UHCW and George Elliot. They are assessed and put on the right care pathway by AMHAT staff.

ACTION: Celine will forward information about AMHAT to AIMHS for dissemination.

Diane McHugh - Speaker from CWPT on Integrated Practice Units

An Integrated Practice Unit aligns care delivery so that all the specialists and skilled staff that are necessary to address a medical condition work together in the same organisational unit. In future IPUs will be brought in for acute mental health patients.

Service users will be triaged and then referred to one of three Community IPUs for either:

1. Psychotic conditions
2. Non-psychotic conditions
3. Dementia

The number of beds won't be increasing because there will be more emphasis on home treatment.

Q: A member mentioned that a friend of theirs had a "nervous breakdown" at home and dialled the crisis team. This was four or five weeks ago. They refused to do an assessment and told the patient to dial 999.

A: The Crisis Team gatekeeps the beds in-patient hospitals because it is generally better for people to be treated at home, if possible, because their recovery is more likely this way.

Q: A member asked what would happen if you fell between psychotic and non-psychotic care clusters.

A: This wouldn't happen. You might fall between Care Clusters four and five but in that case a multi-disciplinary team would decide where you were allocated.

Q: A member mentioned that they'd only found out about AIMHS and UNA (a support group for people with mental health problems run by Tricia Wood of AIMHS) through a friend. Why weren't service users told about third sector organisations that could help them?

A: CWPT is looking at compiling a database of support organisations for use by the Single Point of Entry, although Voluntary Action Coventry and Coventry City Council already have them.

Celine promised to mention AIMHS to service users in future.

A member of AIMHS said that UNA could help update the directory.

The meeting ended at 12.30pm.

**Date of next Meeting: Thursday 29th May, 10.30am – 12.30pm
Koco Building, Spon End, Coventry, CV1 3JQ.**

AIMHS Forum Dates for 2014:

10th July, 21st August (AGM), 2nd October, 13th November, 18th December.