



Accreditation for Acute Inpatient Mental Health Services (AIMS)

Newsletter Issue 3 - April 2008

We are delighted to bring to you the third of our bi-annual newsletters. If you have any comments, suggestions or news, please do get in touch:



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Membership/Project Team Update

Membership of AIMS has increased at a phenomenal rate since the last issue of this Newsletter, almost doubling: we now have **123 member wards!** While of course this is great news, it does mean that 2008 is going to be a very, very busy year, with dozens of peer-review visits scheduled. We're going to need help from all our trained reviewers to keep the process going.

We held the first of this year's three **Reviewer Training Days** on the 7th of April, training almost 40 new reviewers. The second day is on the 16th of June (now fully booked), and we have just scheduled the third for **Monday the 8th of September**. If you haven't already attended a training day, and you are interested in joining the peer-review process, you are more than welcome to join us in September - just drop us a line. The training is free, and open to all qualified staff, Service Users and Carers.

Member wards continue to successfully achieve accreditation, and to date **27 wards have been accredited, 3 with excellence**. Congratulations to all accredited wards and all their staff. We have photos and feedback from our 'excellent' wards on page 4. Details of all our current members, together with their accreditation status, can be found on pages 5-6.

On a slightly different note, we are delighted to welcome a new member of the AIMS Project Team - **Maria Kordowicz** joined us as a Quality Improvement Worker in January. As well as working on working-age adult AIMS, Maria is currently contributing to the development of **AIMS-OP**, for older people's services (in collaboration with Graham Hinchcliffe, our colleague here at the Centre for Quality Improvement), which is currently in its pilot phase. Details of progress so far can be found on page 2, with an AIMS-OP **Joining Form** on page 3.

AIMS Standards - Third Edition

The AIMS Reference Group meets for the second time in July this year, amongst other things to finalise the Third Edition of *AIMS Standards Acute Inpatient Wards (Working Age Adults)*. We are now inviting suggestions for amendments or additions to the standards, with a deadline of the **1st of June**.

Please get in touch with any comments, ideas or suggestions you have for improving or amending the standards, particularly if you feel that we have omitted something you think should be included. Contact details for the AIMS Project Team are on the back page of this Newsletter, or you can use the feedback form at the back of the Second Edition Standards (downloadable from www.rcpsych.ac.uk/AIMS).

AIMS-OP: Developing AIMS for Older People's Inpatient Services

From October 2008, the remit of AIMS will expand to include the accreditation of older people's acute inpatient wards. The AIMS-OP (Accreditation for Inpatient Mental Health Services – Older People) Team has been working on the development of this process, culminating in a six-month pilot phase, which is taking place at present.

Through the running of AIMS, a need emerged for a similar scheme for inpatient mental health services for older people. This gap has been confirmed by emergent findings from the National Audit of Violence (2006-2007) which was completed by over 70 wards for older people with mental health problems. In line with working-age adult AIMS, AIMS-OP hopes to identify and acknowledge those wards which have high standards of organisation and patient care, and to support and enable others to achieve these.

Since September 2006, we have been working closely with our Steering Group, consisting of a number of mental health professionals and Service Users from older people's NHS wards in England and Wales, to develop the AIMS-OP process. The procedure was evidence-base driven from the onset, with extensive literature reviews being undertaken to incorporate current policy and best practice guidance.

Most recently, the work of the AIMS-OP team has included adapting the AIMS standards accordingly and creating appropriate audit questionnaires. This is a lengthy process of Steering Group consultation, feedback and meticulous checking and re-checking. We were very excited to have our eleven pilot wards begin their three-month self-review process at the beginning of March. We hope that they will give us food for further improving and streamlining our audit processes before the national launch of AIMS-OP in October 2008.

As with AIMS, AIMS-OP members will be supported through a twelve-month review process that will incorporate the following:

- **self-review**, including staff, patient and carer/next of kin questionnaires;
- a one-day **peer-review** visit by a multi-disciplinary review team;
- a recommendation of accreditation status by the **AIMS-OP Accreditation Advisory Committee**;
- ratification of accreditation status by the Royal College of Psychiatrists' **Education, Training and Standards Committee**;
- advice and support to help identify and prioritise problems and set achievable targets for change.

Accreditation will be valid for up to four years, subject to satisfactory completion of an annual self-review.

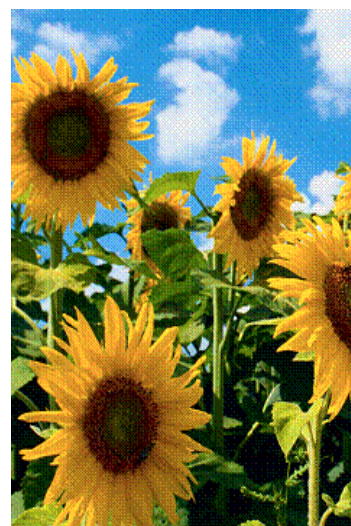
We already have **22** older people's wards signed up to AIMS-OP, beginning from October 2008. If you are interested in joining the process at the end of this year, then please complete and return the joining form on page 3 to us, at the address below. Please feel free if to get in touch with the team with any queries about AIMS-OP:

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Accreditation for Acute Inpatient Mental Health Services – Older People’s Services (AIMS-OP)

Name of Trust:	
Name(s) of ward(s) wishing to join:	
1:	3:
2:	4:

Local Contact Details:		
Title	First name	Surname
Job title:		
Mailing address:		
Tel:		Fax:
Email:		

Fees (per ward):	
£1,800 per annum <input type="checkbox"/>	
£6,480 for the full 4 years (10% discount) <input type="checkbox"/>	
Sub-total	£
VAT @ 17.5%	£
TOTAL	£

Invoicing details:	
For the attention of:	
Mailing address (if different from above):	
Tel:	Fax:
Email:	

Accredited with Excellence:

- Amberwood Ward, Dartford, Kent -***
- Woodlands Ward, Dartford, Kent -***
- Fletcher Ward, Bodmin, Cornwall -***



The team at Little Brook Hospital, Dartford, home of Amberwood (formerly Ash) and Woodlands Wards.

"This accreditation is a means of identifying the quality of service provided by the ward and will reassure our patients that they are receiving high levels of care. I congratulate all staff for their role in achieving this award. Excellent changes have been made and they will certainly benefit those who use the services.

The whole team made a contribution and, most importantly, it was evident they really wanted this accreditation to show the care they provide is of the highest standard."

Angela Shorter (far right in photo)
Acute Care Services Manager
Little Brook Hospital

"Fletcher Ward is such a new unit that it is fantastic to see we have achieved this level of good practice and have ranked alongside some of the best facilities in the country.

The whole team has worked extremely hard, involving patients and carers to achieve very high standards.

The process has been an incredible journey and the team have given their utmost to ensure that we provide the best patient care possible, and we are extremely proud to have had our ward accredited by the Royal College of Psychiatrists."

Heather Pritchard (front row, third from right), Ward Manager
Fletcher Ward, Bodmin Hospital



The team at Fletcher Ward, Bodmin Hospital, Bodmin, Cornwall

"I felt really elated." - Janet Rowse, Staff Nurse

"Proud to be associated with an excellent unit."

- Jamie Blake, Lead Healthcare Assistant

"A validation of time and effort spent."

- Vicky Clarke, Charge Nurse

"Proud to be working with such enthusiastic and dedicated individuals."

- Samantha Clemo Healthcare Assistant

"Highly accredited - what a good place to start!"

- Helen Jenkins, Healthcare Assistant

"It is rewarding to know that we have been recognised for the hard work we have done."

- Matt Branch, Healthcare Assistant



**AIMS Member Wards - 1st April 2008
(accredited wards in bold, * with excellence *)**

Channel Islands

States of Jersey Adult Mental Health Service

Orchard House, St. Saviour's Hospital

England NHS Services

5 Boroughs Partnership NHS Trust

Austin Ward, Hollins Park Hospital
 Bridge Ward, Halton Hospital
 Iris Ward, Peasley Cross Site
 Makerfield Unit, Leigh Infirmary
 Sheridan Ward, Hollins Park Hospital
 T1 Ward, Whiston Hospital
 T2 Ward, Whiston Hospital
 Taylor Ward, Peasley Cross
 Weaver Ward, Halton Hospital
 Women's Mental Health Unit, Leigh Infirmary

Berkshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust

Bluebell Ward, Prospect Park Hospital
 Daisy Ward, Prospect Park Hospital
 Ward 10, Heatherwood Hospital
 Ward 12, Wexham Park Hospital

Cambridgeshire and Peterborough
 Mental Health Partnership NHS Trust

Acer Ward, Hinchingsbrooke Hospital
 Adrian House, Fulbourn Hospital
 Friends Ward, Fulbourn Hospital
 Ward 4, Edith Cavell Hospital
 Ward 5, Edith Cavell Hospital

Cheshire and Wirral Partnership NHS Trust

Beech Ward, Bowmere Hospital
 Juniper Ward, Bowmere Hospital

Cornwall Partnership Trust

Bay Unit, Longreach House Hospital
*** Fletcher Ward, Bodmin Hospital ***

Cumbria Partnership NHS Trust

Beckside Ward, Furness General Hospital
 Hadrian Ward, Carleton Clinic

Dudley Primary Care Trust

Clent Ward, Bushey Fields Hospital
Kinver Ward, Bushey Fields Hospital
Wrekin Ward, Bushey Fields Hospital

East London NHS Foundation Trust

Brett Ward, City and Hackney Centre for Mental Health
 Brick Lane Ward, Tower Hamlets Centre for Mental Health
 Conolly Ward, City and Hackney Centre for Mental Health
 Emerald Ward, Newham Centre for Mental Health
 Globe Ward, Tower Hamlets Centre for Mental Health
 Joshua Ward, City and Hackney Centre for Mental Health
 Lea Ward, Tower Hamlets Centre for Mental Health
 Mermaid Ward, City and Hackney Centre for Mental Health
 Opal Ward, Newham Centre for Mental Health
 Roman Ward, Tower Hamlets Centre for Mental Health
 Sapphire Ward, Newham Centre for Mental Health
 Strauss Ward, City and Hackney Centre for Mental Health
 Topaz Ward, Newham Centre for Mental Health

Gloucestershire Partnership NHS Foundation Trust

Abbey Ward, Wotton Lawn Hospital
 Dean Ward, Wotton Lawn Hospital
 Kingsholm Ward, Wotton Lawn Hospital
 Priory Ward, Wotton Lawn Hospital

Herefordshire Primary Care Trust

Jenny Lind Ward, County Hospital

Kent & Medway NHS and Social Care Partnership Trust

Amherst Ward, Priority House
*** Amberwood Ward, Little Brook Hospital ***
Brocklehurst Ward, Priority House
*** Woodlands Ward, Little Brook Hospital ***

Manchester Mental Health and Social Care NHS Trust

Grafton Ward, Manchester Royal Infirmary

North East Lincolnshire Care Trust Plus

Diamond Suite, Diana Princess of Wales Hospital
Sapphire Suite, Diana Princess of Wales Hospital

North Staffordshire Combined Healthcare NHS Trust

Ward 1 (HDU), Harplands Hospital
 Ward 2 (Male), Harplands Hospital
 Ward 3 (Female), Harplands Hospital

Northumberland, Tyne and Wear NHS Trust

Bede 1, South Tyneside District Hospital
Collingwood Court, St. Nicholas Hospital
East Willows, Cherry Knowle Hospital
Lamesley Ward, Queen Elizabeth Hospital
Ward 21, North Tyneside General Hospital
Warkworth Ward, St. George's Park



→ Nottinghamshire Healthcare NHS Trust	Carlton Ward, Highbury Hospital Lady Middleton Ward, Highbury Hospital Lister Ward, Wells Road Centre Ward A42, Queen's Medical Centre Ward A43, Queen's Medical Centre Ward A44, Queen's Medical Centre
Oxleas NHS Foundation Trust	Avery Ward, Oxleas House Goddington Ward, Princess Royal University Hospital Millbrook Ward, Queen Mary's Hospital
Plymouth Teaching Primary Care Trust	Bridford Ward, Glenbourne Unit Harford Ward, Glenbourne Unit
South Essex Partnership NHS Foundation Trust	Boleyn Ward, Runwell Hospital Chalkwell Ward, Runwell Hospital Grangewaters Ward, Basildon Mental Health Unit Westley Ward, Basildon Mental Health Unit
South London and Maudsley NHS Foundation Trust	Alex Ground Floor, Bethlem Royal Hospital Eileen Skellern 2, Maudsley Hospital Luther King Ward, Lambeth Hospital Wharton Ward, Ladywell Unit
Suffolk Mental Health Partnership NHS Trust	Mistley Ward, St Clement's Hospital Northgate Ward, West Suffolk Hospital Parham Ward, St Clement's Hospital Playford Ward, St Clement's Hospital Southgate Ward, West Suffolk Hospital
Surrey and Borders Partnership NHS Trust	Delius Ward, Epsom General Hospital Elgar Ward, Epsom General Hospital
Sussex Partnership NHS Trust	Rothermay Ward, Eastbourne District General Hospital Woodlands Ward, Conquest Hospital
Tees, Esk and Wear Valleys NHS Trust	Allensford Ward, Shotley Bridge Hospital Ayckbourn Ward, Cross Lane Hospital Ayton Ward, St Luke's Hospital Birch Ward, West Park Hospital Cooke Ward, University Hospital of North Tees Elm Ward, West Park Hospital Harding Ward, County Hospital Lincoln Ward, Sandwell Park Maple Ward, West Park Hospital Rushford Ward, County Hospital Stephenson Ward, University Hospital of North Tees Thornton Ward, St Luke's Hospital
Walsall Teaching Primary Care Trust	Ambleside Ward, Dorothy Pattison Hospital Langdale Ward, Dorothy Pattison Hospital
England Independent Sector	
Affinity Healthcare	Thoburn Ward, Middleton St. George Hospital
Ireland	
Health Service Executive (West)	Psychiatric Unit, University College Hospital, Galway
Isle of Man	
DHSS Isle Of Man	Grianagh Court, Noble's Hospital
Northern Ireland NHS Services	
South Eastern Health and Social Care Trust	Department of Psychiatry, Lagan Valley Hospital Finneston House
Wales NHS Services	
Abertawe Bro Morgannwg University NHS Trust	Ward 4, Cefn Coed Hospital Ward 6, Cefn Coed Hospital Ward D, Cefn Coed Hospital
Cardiff and Vale NHS Trust	East 5A Ward, Whitchurch Hospital Gorwel Ward, Llanfair Unit Newid Ward, Llanfair Unit Rawnsley Unit, Llanfair Unit Tresaith (East 2A) Ward, Whitchurch Hospital West 3 Ward, Whitchurch Hospital
North East Wales NHS Trust	Hafod Ward, Wrexham Maelor Hospital Hendref Ward, Wrexham Maelor Hospital
Pontypridd and Rhondda NHS Trust	Rhondda Ward, Royal Glamorgan Hospital Taff Ely Ward, Royal Glamorgan Hospital



250 wards are now members, about half of the 550 acute wards in the country and some also very welcome secure and forensic wards, and continue to provide some fantastic services to patients. Over 400 of these ideas are about to appear in *Star Wards 2 – The Sequel* which we hope will rock the sector as an unprecedented collection of great practice. Also poised for launch is the four-page bi-monthly *Star Wards* supplement in *Mental Health Today*.

The College of Occupational Therapists has helped us produce a practical and fun resource for health-care assistants on 'therapeutic conversations' with patients. The first half of the publication is about the challenges of talking to seriously ill patients and the second has great advice and ideas about running groups conducive to conversation.

For more information please visit our website www.starwards.org.uk or email marion@brightplace.org.uk.

AIMS Accreditation Advisory Committee: New Members Required

Following the recent increase in membership of AIMS, we are planning to increase the membership of its Accreditation Advisory Committee (AAC), and are now inviting applications.

The AAC is the committee that recommends accreditation levels of member wards to the Education, Training and Standards Committee of the Royal College of Psychiatrists, and is therefore crucial to the AIMS accreditation process. We are looking for **Qualified Nurses, Psychiatrists, Occupational Therapists, Psychologists, Service Users and Carers** who would be interested in joining the committee.

If you are interested in applying, please contact the AIMS Project Team for a copy of the AAC Job Role and an application form - the closing date for receipt of completed applications is **Friday the 16th of May**.

Contact the AIMS Project Team

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Have your say...

All members of AIMS - including anyone who works on a member ward - is entitled to join the AIMS Email Discussion Group.

This is your forum for sharing ideas and experiences, and is also where you can receive updates on the project. To sign up, please send an email with the word 'Join' in the subject line to:

AIMS-CHAT@cru.rcpsych.ac.uk



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