



Patient or Carer Representative x 1

**Quality Network for Community CAMHS (QNCC)
and Quality Network for Inpatient CAMHS (QNIC)**

(CCQI)

£140 per day

3 Year Fixed Term Contract

Location: Homebased

Working pattern: Remote

Contract type: 3 Year Fixed Term Contract

Location: Homebased

Closing date for applications: Friday 23 January 2026, 11:59 pm

Interview date: Tuesday 10 February 2026 - Online via MS Teams

The Royal College of Psychiatrists is seeking 1 Patient or Carer Representative to join the Quality Network's for Inpatient and Community CAMHS (QNIC/QNCC) as a Worker. The successful applicant will have recent lived experience of Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) or caring for a young person with mental illness.

As part of this role, you will be closely involved with the Network and particularly with the project team, to engage the wider membership and partner organisations in advocating for the QNIC and QNCC patient group.

The Network is a quality improvement and accreditation project that works with child and adolescent mental health services all around the UK and Ireland. The views, ideas, skills and experience of people who have used these services are vital for our work.

The Network takes inpatient and community CAMHS teams through a supportive process of self- and peer-review to assess how the service is performing against an agreed set of quality standards.

The self-review involves completion of a team checklist and gathering of feedback from patients, family, friends and carers, partner agencies and staff. The peer-review visit takes place over a whole day and involves verifying the self-review data, considering the service in its unique context and exchanging information about best practice. Peer-review teams comprise CAMHS professionals, a member of the QNIC or QNCC project team and a patient and/or carer representative.

You can read more about the Network on our webpage:

<https://www.rcpsych.ac.uk/improving-care/ccqi/quality-networks-accreditation/child-adolescent-inpatient-services>

<https://www.rcpsych.ac.uk/improving-care/ccqi/quality-networks-accreditation/child-and-adolescent-community-teams-qncc>

The executive committee meets three times a year in London to discuss a range of issues relating to the specialty of Quality Network's for Inpatient and Community CAMHS (QNIC/QNCC). The majority of the committee are psychiatrists from across the UK.

The Patient Representative or Carer Representative is expected to attend and contribute to the executive committee meetings and collaborate with committee members to complete pieces of work, such as input into consultation documents and college papers. Opportunities arise for involvement with the annual conference, communications, and the media.

Description of the main stages of the Network:

Quality standards for specific mental health services – The standards spell out what needs to happen in order to provide a good service and are used to measure service quality. For example, a standard on patient information might state 'patients are offered a summary of their care plan'. This standard would then be measured and, if a mental health team is not meeting the standard, they will be asked to put changes in place to meet it in the future.

Who decides what goes in the standards? The standards are developed by looking at existing guidance and by consulting with experts in the field, including staff, patients and carers. This will sometimes involve a large meeting where people discuss what should and should not be included.

Self-review - This involves us sending out questionnaires or other forms for staff, patients and carers to fill in and send back to us. We sometimes refer to these as 'data collection tools'. These all link to the quality standards and help to inform us about whether a standard is being met.

Peer review – This involves mental health staff, patients and/or carers visiting another mental health service for a day to look around, interview people and take part in group discussions. Patient and carer representatives going on peer reviews receive full training and support from the project team. These are day-long visits which follow a clear structure and are facilitated by an experienced lead.

Writing reports – Project staff write reports which summarise the achievements of the service as well as areas they need to improve upon. The reports are sent back to the service so that they can learn from the findings.

Learning events – Some projects hold events so that people in particular areas of mental health can share ideas and help each other improve ways of working. Patients and carers are often involved in these events, with the potential for dedicated workshops being run by patients and carers about their experiences and how this can support service improvement.

Advisory Group - Each network has its own Advisory Group comprising professionals who represent key interests and areas of expertise relevant to the network, and patients and carers who have experience of using the services the network focuses on. The purpose of the group is to advise and further the work of the network.

Accreditation Committee – Each network also has its own Accreditation Committee which accredits services based on the evidence gathered during the self- and peer review. The committee may request further information or a re-visit to the service if there are concerns about quality.

The Patient Representative or Carer Representative must have access to their own electrical equipment to attend meetings and Wi-Fi connection.

RCPsych has developed a high media profile and is a leading organisation in terms of equality and diversity. It was a recent winner of Charity of the Year at the European Diversity Awards. This is an excellent opportunity for patients and carers to contribute their perspectives on important mental health issues for Quality Network's for Inpatient and Community CAMHS (QNIC/QNCC) and be part of our ongoing strategy and communications development.

Please click 'Apply Online' to complete the Standard Application Form or if you require an Easy Read Application Form, please download as attached, complete and send to:
HRrecruitment@rcpsych.ac.uk

If you require assistance or any other reasonable adjustments to complete your application form, please contact HRrecruitment@rcpsych.ac.uk

The College is a proud member of the Disability Confident Employer scheme. A Disability Confident employer will offer an interview to any applicant that declares they have a disability and meets the minimum criteria (essential) for the job as defined by the employer.

Please see Candidate Information Pack for more information.

