

An audit of compliance of physical health monitoring for the caseload of community forensic psychiatry patients based in forensic supported accommodation Dr Chung MA Lin<sup>1</sup>, Dr Michael Lacey<sup>2</sup>, Dr Neeti Sud<sup>2</sup>

NHS Cumbria, Northumberland, Tyne and Wear

ncmal@newcastle.ac.uk

# Introduction

- Patients with psychosis are found to experience poor physical health leading to a reduction in life expectancy of almost 20 years. Monitoring of cardio metabolic risk factors for this, particularly weight gain, is therefore crucial.
- Our forensic patients based at supported accommodation have their physical health care needs managed by GPs and Community Psychiatric Nurses (CPN). They get regular ECGs done at the local walk in ECG clinic, which due to COVID, has only recently reopened.
- NICE Guidelines (2014) recommends that monitoring of physical health in service users with schizophrenia should be carried out regularly and at least once per year in primary care, with a focus on cardiovascular disease risk assessment.
- Patients on antipsychotic medication need regular physical health monitoring, including routine bloods and ECGs. Guidelines also indicate those who are on the Olanzapine long-acting injection (LAI) should have a 3-monthly ECG in addition to the annual one.

The main objective of this audit was to check that physical health monitoring of this patient group is in line with the above guidelines.

#### Methods

- All 12 residents living in community supported accommodation and are currently taking antipsychotic medications.
- Data reviewed was from September 2020 to September 2021. Data audited were from electronic patient records.
- Compliance results against individual standards within this audit were graded on a traffic light system with green as 90-100% compliance, amber as 80-89% partially compliant and red as 0-79% non-compliant.

## Results

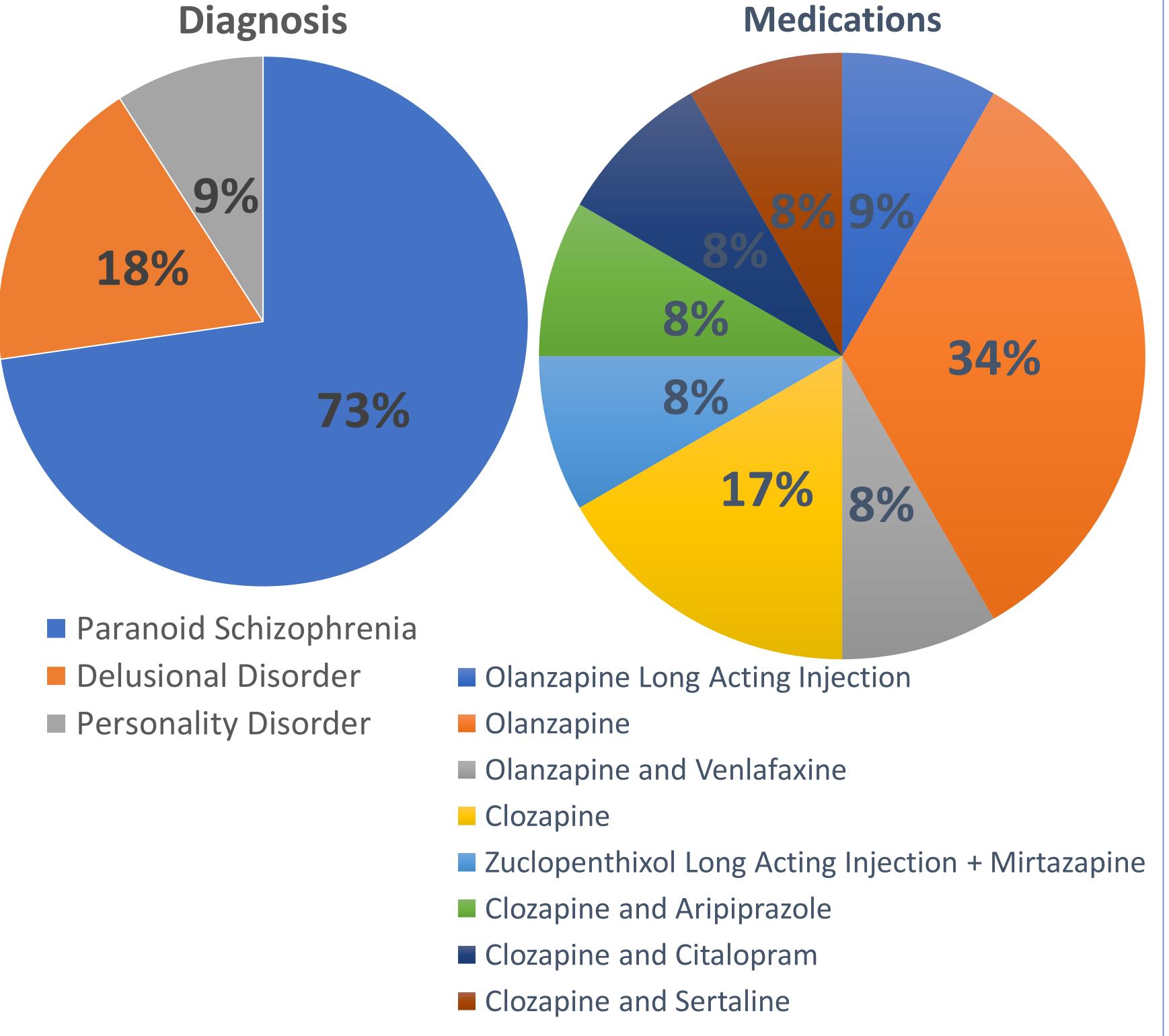


Figure 1: The proportion of patients with each mental health diagnosis (n=12). Figure 2: The proportion of patients on each antipsychotic medication +/antidepressant (n=12)

Standard	Compliance attained
Annual ECG for patients on antipsychotics	92%
Annual bloods for patients on antipsychotics without any missing tests	83%
Annual bloods for patients performed, though 1 or 2 tests may be missing	100%

**Table 1:** Breakdown of compliance attained in comparison to the guidelines.

### Discussion

- Annual ECGs were in date for 92% of patients. Only one patient is on the Olanzapine LAI and their latest ECG was dated back to May 2021.
- Closure of the ECG walk-in clinic during COVID led to delays in arranging routine ECGs. This will be remediated through identifying those needing a new ECG and organising this for as soon as possible.
- All annual bloods were in date. However, specific blood tests were missing amongst repeat bloods for some. Two did not have an up-to-date thyroid function test, one missing a new lipid profile and HbA1c and another missing prolactin.
- These missing bloods will be added to their next repeat set to coverage of the recommended tests for monitoring.
- Recommendations for the future: Staff to focus on the dates of investigations performed and to arrange the next set when next due. The consultant and junior doctor will, from now on, review dates of investigations prior to each care coordination review (CCR) meeting and chase any that remain outstanding.

#### Summary

Patients requiring an up-to-date ECG have been highlighted to the team and a request sent for them as soon as possible. Any missing bloods have also been requested on the next repeat set to complete full routine monitoring for identified patients.

1. NICE. (2014). Psychosis and schizophrenia in adults: prevention and management (CG178). https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/cg178

2. CNTW©29 - V06.2 Trust Standard for Physical Assessment and Examination Policy. https://www.cntw.nhs.uk/content/uploads/2019/04/CNTWC29-TrustStdAssessMge-V06.2

2. PPT-PGN-05 - Safe Prescribing of Clozapine PGN- Appendices (PPT-PGN-05) https://www.cntw.nhs.uk/about/policies/safe-prescribing-of-clozapine-pgn-appendices-ppt-pgn-05/

2 Cumbria, Northumberland, Tyne And Wear NHS Foundation Trust, Newcastle upon Tyne, UK

1 National Institute of Health Research Newcastle Biomedical Research Centre and the Translational and Clinical Research Institute, Newcastle University, Newcastle upon Tyne, UK