

Treatment in Secure Services – a parent's perspective

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Being a carer in a secure service

Exploring Family Carer Involvement in Forensic Mental Health Services (2014)

- 2014 UCLAN/Support in Mind/Scottish Gov.
- “I was almost overwhelmed by stress. I felt dreadful guilty at the time, felt I’d failed,/you feel like you’re a criminal, I can’t move on with my life.”
- “Interviewees used terms like ‘anxiety’, ‘upset’, ‘frustrating’, ‘very scared’, ‘in a dark place’, ‘sadness’, ‘bleakness’, ‘fear’, ‘draining’, ‘a real struggle’ and ‘duty’. It sometimes felt like no one was on their side.”
- Confusion
- Isolation
- “They don’t like people sharing things-there’s this kind of veil of silence”

Carer Support and Involvement in Secure Mental Health services.

www.england.nhs.uk/securecarerstoolkit

Admission – a missed opportunity

Seeing carers as people

Know person prior to the illness – likes and dislikes

Know when their behaviour is out of character

Know their skills and talents

Will likely know what led to the admission – risk

Help identify relapse signature

Medication history/know allergies and physical health needs

Identify impact on other family members

Accurate Social Circumstances Report/Social History

Maintain family relationships

This is about developing trust and looking to the wellbeing of carers. It is your duty of care.

Why do we call it call confidentiality?

Information sharing for the benefit of the patients

Personal information v general information

My son does not want me involved in his care and treatment – what does that mean?

Good professionals know how to talk generally to carers so that necessary information can be given

Patients cannot stop a carer speaking to a psychiatrist and giving information.

Information known is no longer confidential

You can ask me questions!!

Where are we now?

“Communicating effectively and engaging patients, families and carers is more important than ever during this time of uncertainty.” (Legal guidance for mental health, learning disability and autism, and specialized commissioning services supporting people of all ages during the coronavirus pandemic, 19th May 2020, Version 2)

3.12 Low and Med. secure service specifications-” must have a carer engagement and involvement strategy”. / implement Secure Carers Toolkit

Standard 54 – carers are supported to engage in meetings, events and service initiatives

Standard 57.

Opportunities for carer engagement

How can you do the best for the patient if you do not engage with the people who care the most?

CPA, Social History, tribunals, social circumstances report, ward round, risk assessment, discharge process.

Changes to the service, reception area, planning events, carer forum.

Opportunities to give views.

Understand the system – being engaged in the process

Anytime you see a carer - how are you?

E-mail, text, phone, skype, Teams, Zoom etc

Biggest opportunity to engage carers thereby maintaining family relationships.

Thank you for listening!

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