

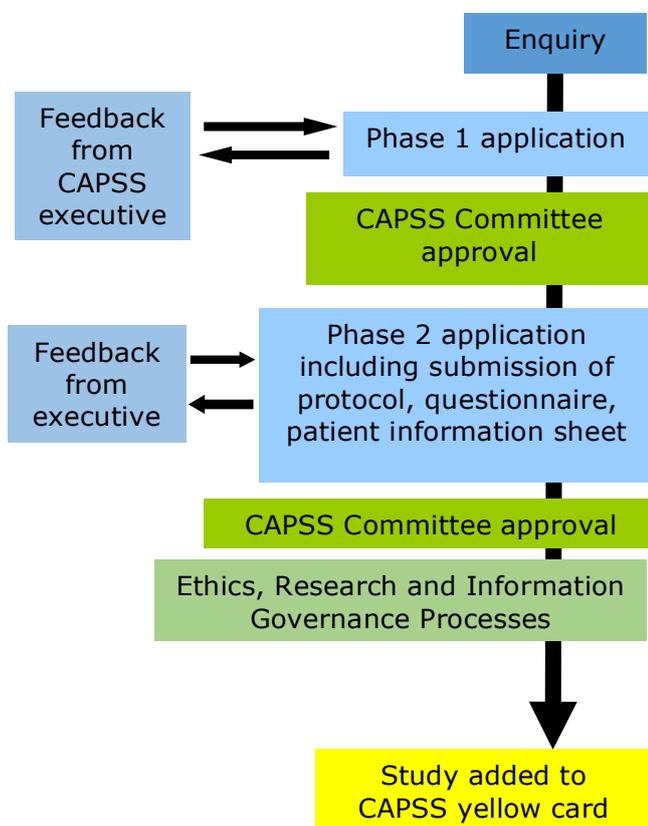
The Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Surveillance System (CAPSS)

<http://www.rcpsych.ac.uk/workinpsychiatry/qualityimprovement/research/capss.aspx>

[For more information, please Email: CAPSS@rcpsych.ac.uk](mailto:CAPSS@rcpsych.ac.uk)

Introduction

- The Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Surveillance System (CAPSS) was established in 2009
- CAPSS supports the epidemiological study of rare mental health disorders or events amongst children and adolescents across the United Kingdom and Ireland through a process of active surveillance.
- CAPSS aims to increase awareness among the medical profession and public about these disorders and events as well as their impact on children and adolescents.
- CAPSS work aims at informing clinical strategy and public health policy and respond in a timely manner to clinical and public health concerns



Application Process for CAPSS

CAPSS Methodology (active surveillance)

- CAPSS electronic yellow card emailed to each CAMHS consultant every month
- The consultant reports whether or not they have assessed a child with the rare disorder(s) or clinical event(s) under study over the last month.
- The CAPSS administrator notifies the appropriate investigator of any positive reports
- The study investigator sends a questionnaire to the reporting psychiatrist to gather further information.

CAPSS Advantages

- The most accurate and cost effective way to study rare psychiatric disorders or events.
- Prospective contemporaneous national data collection from consultant psychiatrists (and in some cases consultant paediatricians), which provides a more accurate picture of the service level incidence of rare disorders or events.
 - The Chair of CAPSS Executive Committee sits on the equivalent committee of British Paediatric Surveillance Unit (BPSU). The two units work closely together in relation to methodology and individual study proposals.
- Informal collaborations between members of the CAPSS Executive Committee and researchers with relevant interest groups and networks in Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) have improved ascertainment through encouraging participation.

CAPSS Impact and Outputs

Publications in high impact peer reviewed journals listed in 7 year CAPSS Report

http://www.rcpsych.ac.uk/pdf/CAPSS_7_year_report_updated.pdf

Informing National Policy

Surveillance methodology, CAPSS and the BPSU were mentioned in the Chief Medical Officers report (2013); Public Mental Health; Investing in the evidence.

CATCH-uS: Children with ADHD in transition to adult services study included a surveillance study and will feed into guidelines on transition arrangements for children with ADHD.

Service Development

Data from the Surveillance Study of Narrow Phenotype Paediatric Bipolar1 Disorder informed the development of the National Adolescent Bipolar Service (ABS), a tertiary second opinion service providing assessment and management advice to local CAMHS teams. ABS is part of the Northern Centre for Mood Disorders, a joint academic clinical collaboration between Northumberland Tyne and Wear NHS Foundation Trust and Newcastle University.

Service Redesign

CAPSS studies can inform decision making in relation to service redesign. For example, the careful description of the prevalence of early onset eating disorders has contributed to decision making in relation to service provision, both in early intervention and in relation to child psychiatric in-patient beds. CAPSS study on early onset eating disorders has also informed the Marzipan Guidelines