

Overview of national audit of EIP services 2019/2020

Patient information sheet

What does the audit do?

The national audit of EIP services (also known as NCAP, the National Clinical Audit of Psychosis) collects data from services to see if people with psychosis are receiving care in line with national guidance. In 2018/19 and 2019/2020 we are looking at care received by people in Early Intervention in Psychosis (EIP) services.

What is happening in 2019/2020?

In 2019/2020, we will be collecting data via a case note audit of EIP services, and a survey of people treated in EIP services.

The survey will ask people who have been treated in EIP services about the care they have received, and how they feel about it. People who have used EIP services helped us develop the survey, and the survey asks about elements of care they felt were important.

For the case note audit, EIP services will fill out a questionnaire about the treatment they have provided to some of the people they treated over the last year (a sample). The questionnaire asks about things like whether people received interventions such as CBTp (Cognitive Behavioural Therapy for Psychosis) or physical health screening. We can then measure how well services are doing at providing different aspects of treatment. The questionnaire covers areas of EIP services important to people being treated and care providers.

The case note audit and survey will not be linked. This means that any information you provide to us will be anonymous. We won't know who has completed a survey and all responses to the survey are confidential.

Why is the case note audit in 2019/2020 different?

Previously, none of the information we collected was used to identify which people were included in the audit. However, this year we will be asking Trusts to provide some personal information – the NHS number, date of birth and postcode for everyone in the sample (this is known as identifiable information). This will only be the case for English Trusts and will not apply to Health Boards in Wales.

What personal information will be collected in the case note audit?

We will be collecting the NHS number, date of birth and postcode for everyone in the case note audit. We will not be collecting names or full addresses. We will ensure this information remains confidential and is kept securely.

The survey does not ask for any identifiable information and is completely anonymous.

Why will personal information be obtained?

Trusts submit data to NHS Digital each month on the care they provide to each patient. This includes information about the treatment provided by EIP services, which are the same data we collect in the case-note audit.

Collecting personal information will allow us to compare the data we collect with the data that Trusts in England submit directly to NHS Digital. You can find out more about these data from [NHS Digital](#).

This is important as in future years of the audit we would like to stop collecting data ourselves and use the NHS Digital data instead. This will reduce the work for services of taking part in the audit and leave them more time to care for people.

Longer-term outcomes

We would also like to be able to look at what other services people use in the future (for example inpatient or emergency medical services). Looking at what care people received and what other NHS services they use will help us find out how treatment provided by EIP services affects people's health. This means that we will know more about how effective interventions are such as talking treatments or physical health screening.

Have plans for collecting this information been approved?

We need to have special permission to collect identifiable data without asking each person for their consent. This is known as Section 251 approval and gives Trusts the legal permission to provide this information.

In order to get Section 251 approval, we have to prove that we will look after and store these data carefully. We must also show that using identifiable information is the only way to carry out this work. It must also help improve patient care. We can only collect identifiable data if we get this approval. You can find out more about Section 251 approval from the [NHS Health Research Authority](#).

We take our responsibility towards safeguarding data seriously. We will ensure identifiable data are kept confidential and secure.

What can I find out about my rights in relation to this audit?

You can find out more about how we look after data and your rights in our [privacy notice](#). This explains in more detail what data we hold, how we look after it and what we do with it.

When is the audit taking place?

The survey will be sent out to people who have been treated in EIP services by Trusts and Health Boards in July 2019.

Trusts and Health Boards will collect data for the case note audit in October 2019 and submit the data online in November 2019.

Who will take part?

A random selection of people will be chosen to take part in the survey, and the case-note audit. If you have been treated by an EIP service in the last year, it is possible that you may be contacted by your Team and invited to take part in the survey. The data from the survey and case-note audit won't be linked. This means that we can't match the responses from the survey to any data from the case note audit and will not be able to identify who completes the questionnaire.

If you are sent a survey, it will include information on how to complete it. It will also give the number for a helpline, run by Rethink Mental Illness.

What happens if I don't want my information to be used?

If you receive a survey and you don't want to take part, then you don't have to fill it out. Your team will not know if you choose to complete it or not, and it will not affect your care in any way.

If you don't want to be included in the case note audit, you can choose to opt-out. Opting out of the audit will not affect the care that you receive. To opt out, please [contact us](#) and let us know. We will need to ask for your date of birth, your postcode, your NHS number (if you know it), and the EIP team you are being treated by. If it's before 1st December 2019, we may have to ask you to contact your Trust/organisation to opt-out. You can find more information about this via the opt-out poster on our [website](#).

How can I find the results?

We will produce a report with the results of the audit which will be published in Summer 2020. This will let you know how your local Trust or Health Board is doing. It will also help the Government understand how EIP services are working

across the country and where improvements are needed. The report will provide information at a National and Trust or Health Board level, so it will not be possible to identify any individual in the report.

The results will help Trusts understand more about the care they are providing, how it compares to national standards and how they might work to improve it for people who will use the service in the future.

Who can I contact if I have any questions?

If you have any questions about the audit, please contact the [NCAP team](#).