



National Clinical Audit of Psychosis

Understanding Practice in Clinical Audit and Registries (UPCARE): 1.0 Programme name	National Clinical Audit of Psychosis
1.1 Abbreviation	NCAP
1.2 Audit or non-audit	Audit
1.3 HQIP commissioned	Yes
1.4 Programme unique identifier	HQIP105
Contract status	Ongoing
HQIP AD	PS
HQIP PM	NP
1.5 Lead organisation	Royal College of Psychiatrists
1.6 Programme homepage	https://www.rcpsych.ac.uk/improving-care/ccqi/national-clinical-audits/national-clinical-audit-of-psychosis
1.7 Programme summary	<p>NCAP has been running since 2017 and was developed to follow on from the National Audit of Schizophrenia (NAS) which took place between 2011-2014. In 2017/18 the audit looked at care being provided to people with psychosis by inpatient and outpatient services. Then from 2018 onwards the audit focused on the quality of care provided by Early Intervention in Psychosis (EIP) teams. These are specialised services providing prompt assessment and evidence-based treatments to people with first-episode psychosis. NCAP has received funding for a further three years up until 31 July 2025 and will continue to focus on healthcare improvement of EIP services.</p>

The following services are expected to participate in the audit:

- All NHS-funded Early Intervention in Psychosis teams in England and Wales
- NHS-funded Children and Young People's Mental Health/Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services in England where Early Intervention in Psychosis teams do not extend their offer to Children and Young People

For the current programme running from 2022-2025 the audit will move away from collecting bespoke audit data and will instead use routine data (e.g., MHSDS in England)

which will reduce the burden of data collection on EIP teams and allow them to focus resources on patient care. Additionally, we will develop an online dashboard which will allow teams to view their performance as soon as the data is uploaded. The first year of this programme will be a developmental year during which we set up the new audit methodology and pilot it with a few teams prior to rolling it out nationally.

2.1 Organogram https://www.rcpsych.ac.uk/docs/default-source/improving-care/ccqi/national-clinical-audits/ncap-library/eip-2024/ncap-organogram-january-2024.pdf?sfvrsn=a8c2779b_3

2.3 Governance arrangements The audit is governed by a Steering Group which meets twice a year.
Steering Group co-Chairs (and joint clinical advisors to the audit): Dr Paul French and Professor Jo Smith

The Steering Group provides advice and guidance on:

- Final formulation of the audit standards, taken from the NICE and other relevant, evidence-based guidelines.
- Amendments and development of audit methodology.
- Marketing and promotion to ensure maximum sign-up to the audit and dissemination of the findings.
- Interpretation and reporting of the audit data and findings.
- Recommendations from the audit to improve practice.
- Follow-up work between iterations of the audit.
- Liaison with other key stakeholders.

An Implementation Group is responsible for ensuring the quality and accuracy of the data and project outputs and that the audit programme is delivered. The Implementation Group comprises:

Head of Clinical Audits and Research (Dr Alan Quirk)

NCAP project team members

NCAP clinical advisors (Dr Paul French and Professor Jo Smith)

Service user advisor (Veenu Gupta)

*details provided in the NCAP organogram under section 3.1 of this document

Ultimate responsibility for the NCAP resides with the Clinical Lead, Professor Dasha Nicholls, Clinical and Strategic Director at the Royal College of Psychiatrists.

2.4 Stakeholder engagement The NCAP Service user and Carer Reference Group (SURCG) provides advisory support to the audit that reflects issues of importance to patients with First Episode Psychosis (FEP) and their families/carers. The group includes the NCAP service user advisor and up to 6 patient/carers representatives employed as workers by the RCPsych. It is co-facilitated by the McPin Foundation.

The SURCG provides advice and support on:

- Finalising the healthcare improvement goals and measures for the audit to ensure these reflect issues of importance to patients with first episode psychosis and their families/carers.
- Interpretation and reporting of the audit data and findings.
- Co-producing accessible public facing reports based on the annual State of the Nation summaries.

- Promotion of the audit results e.g., making videos to communicate findings
- Contribute to the quality improvement coaching and support programme, by helping local service user groups to prioritise projects supported by NCAP in their area.

Two members of the SUCRG will attend the Steering Group meeting on a rotational basis, alongside the NCAP Service User Advisor.

We ensure clinicians are involved in the audit by:

- Deriving key metrics from evidence-based standards for the care of people with psychosis.
- Being involved in the design of the audit tool and audit methodology.
- Interpreting the data from the audit from a clinical perspective.
- Presenting key findings from the audit at the professional annual conference.
- Assisting with the audit report write-up.
- Sites are invited via email to register and provide contact details for the audit. Sites are provided with information, and involved in the audit by:
 - Providing lists of patients who meet the eligibility criteria, to enable the NCAP team to generate random samples.
 - Collecting data for the audit.
 - Answering data cleaning queries generated by the NCAP team.
 - Distributing service user surveys and packs to service users.
 - Reviewing data in response to communications about outliers in line with the NCAP outlier policy.

Clinical networks are involved in the audit by:

- Holding regional workshops for teams taking part in the audit. These may involve dissemination of results.

2.5 Conflict of interest policy

Advisory group members are required to declare conflicts of interest and this is reviewed at each meeting – this is a standing agenda item. Signed declarations regarding conflict of interest are collected from committee members annually/ when a new interest is declared, and any interests are registered. The Royal College of Psychiatrists has a standard COI policy for all committee and steering group meetings. <add for NCAP>

Data collection for national clinical audits is covered by a joint privacy notice, explaining why data is collected and how confidentiality is maintained. This can be found on the website:

<https://www.rcpsych.ac.uk/aboutthecollege/dataprotection/privacynoticenationalaudits.aspx>

3.1 Quality improvement goals

The quality improvement objectives of the programme are to:

- Teams will be supported in using prospective audit data from the new dashboard to inform improvement.
- Good practice examples will be shared via presentations from EIP teams and from CYPMH teams submitting good routine data.
- NCAP service users and carers will support local service user groups to prioritise QI projects.
- The new online reporting platform will be piloted with volunteer Trusts, and feedback used to improve the platform before roll-out.
- QI capacity in the core NCAP team will be increased through internal and online training and supervision.

- A QI coaching and support programme will be provided in two cohorts to Trusts and Health Boards
- As part of the of the programme, three online shared learning webinars will be held to allow for participating teams to share their QI initiatives nationally.
- The next wave of teams will be able to register for the second cohort commencing in February, with teams receiving one-to one QI coaching from Maureen or RCPsych QI coach Sathbh Fitzgerald.
- The coaches will meet regularly for peer supervision and to report and evaluate their team's progress. This will also include a end of year review with considerations on any changes and improvements that could be implemented for the second cohort commencing in 2024.

**3.3a Methods
for stimulating
quality
improvement**

Workshops; On-line Quality Improvement guides; Action plan template

**4a) Please add
the most
recent date
that you have
reviewed and
updated an
online version
of UPCARE
(Programme &
Workstream
sections) on
your project's
website (see
pop-up
guidance).**

14/12/2023

**4b) Please add
a hyperlink to
UPCARE on
your website
(see pop-up
guidance).**

https://www.rcpsych.ac.uk/docs/default-source/improving-care/ccqi/national-clinical-audits/ncap-library/upcare-tool-ncap-eip-v3-20190711.pdf?sfvrsn=a149bd8c_4

