POMH 2027 membership

POMH PRESCRIBING OBSERVATORY FOR MENTAL HEALTH
BETTER USE OF MEDICINES
20 YEARS

The Prescribing Observatory for Mental Health (POMH) is a subscription-based project that helps specialist mental health services improve their prescribing practice. We provide audit-based QI programmes that focus on specific topics within mental health prescribing.

Join now to participate in our upcoming programme. Membership runs each year from **1 January** to **31 December**.

- **1-year** membership £6,900 + VAT
- **3-year** membership £19,500 + VAT (*discounted rate)*

Join online: rcpsych.ac.uk/pomh

POMH is funded solely by subscriptions from member healthcare organisations. It does not receive any funding from the pharmaceutical industry.

POMH provides a *'first-rate service to healthcare providers by designing high-quality audits of prescribing practice, making it easier for teams to benchmark their practice against national standards and implement changes aimed at improving the quality of care that patients receive.'*

Professor Mike Crawford,
Former Director of the Royal College of Psychiatrists' College Centre for Quality Improvement.

POMH QI programmes in 2027

- **Managing opioid medications in inpatient mental health services:** informing medicines safety initiatives
- **Use of antidepressants in child and adolescent mental health services:** informing medicines safety initiatives
- **Use of clozapine:** allowing clinical services to benchmark their performance against key recommendations in Wim's Protocol

The POMH team:

Joint Heads of POMH:
Carol Paton, Pharmacist. Honorary Research Fellow, Imperial College London
Thomas R. E. Barnes, Emeritus Professor of Clinical Psychiatry, Imperial College London

Programme Manager: Gavin Herrington

Deputy Programme Manager: Bryan Choi

Project Officer: Elena Pernia

Project Officer: Kitty Marshall

Contact us

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RC PSYCH ROYAL COLLEGE OF PSYCHIATRISTS
CCQI COLLEGE CENTRE FOR QUALITY IMPROVEMENT

What is the Prescribing Observatory for Mental Health (POMH)?

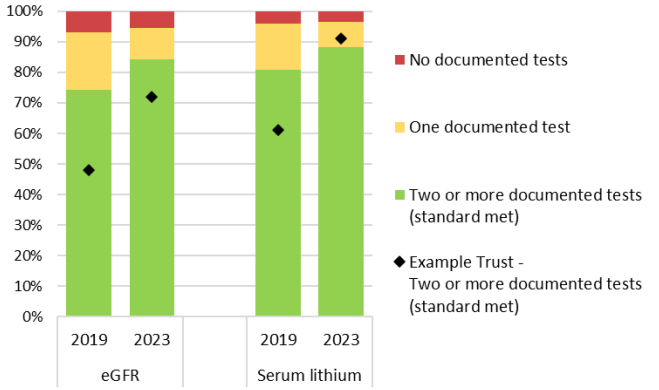
The Prescribing Observatory for Mental Health (POMH) is based at the Royal College of Psychiatrists' Centre for Quality Improvement. We run national Quality Improvement Programmes (QIPs) open to all UK specialist mental health services.

Services that are members of POMH take part in audit-based QI programmes that focus on specific topics within mental health prescribing. We support clinical services to improve the quality of their prescribing practice and reduce risks associated with medicines management.

Wide participation in the clinical audits creates a picture of prescribing practice nationally. Member organisations are able to identify where their prescribing practice meets evidence-based standards along with areas for improvement, where local intervention may be warranted.

Example POMH report chart:

Documented eGFR and serum lithium tests conducted in the past year National and Example Trust subsamples, 2019 and 2023



How POMH supports clinicians and services

For more than twenty years, active participation in POMH QI programmes has helped services in individual Trusts and nationally to improve the quality of prescribing monitoring and review of psychotropic medication.

Participation can also help your organisation demonstrate that it meets national requirements by:

- Providing evidence relevant to the local implementation of NICE guidelines and compliance with best practice standards
- Informing local QI initiatives
- Providing data for Trust Quality Accounts.
- Providing clinical staff with the opportunity to become more familiar with the audit process as a tool for quality improvement.

We provide:

Support to help clinical services measure practice against national standards and agreed best practice

Clear, customised reports for each QI programme that allow services to confidentially benchmark their prescribing practice against other services and the national sample

Change interventions where appropriate, specifically designed for individual QI programmes to support specialist mental health services improve local practice

Free webinars to members that include clinical background presentations from experts in the field

An online Members' Area providing easy access to POMH reports and other support materials.

Recent Quality Improvement Programme topics

The POMH team provides participants with all the help needed to measure practice in a QI programme area. We develop the data collection tools, services enter their data online, then we undertake the analysis.

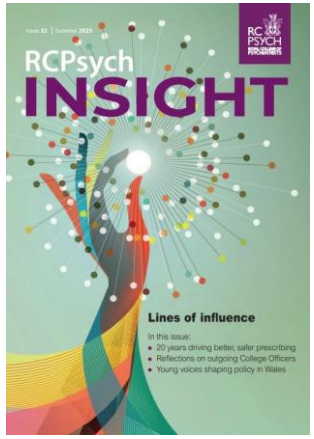
2026 POMH QI programme topics:

- **Use of antipsychotic medication for relapse prevention in patients with a diagnosis of schizophrenia**
- **Prescribing antipsychotic medication in people with dementia**
- **The use of propranolol**

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For a summary of how POMH members have responded to past programmes, you may wish to review our publicly available **15-year report**. The work of POMH has also been featured in the RCPsych *Insight* magazine, for our **20-year anniversary**.





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