

CHAT

Comprehensive Health Assessment Tool

What is the CHAT
and how is it used?

The CHAT is a screening tool that is carried out with all young people who come into HMYOI Feltham.

It consists of 5 parts:

- An initial health screening assessment CHAT 1
- An further physical health screen assessment CHAT 2
- A substance misuse screening assessment CHAT 3
- A mental health screening assessment CHAT 4 (Adolescents Only)
- A neurological screening assessment CHAT 5

Designed for :

- NHS England
- Youth Justice Board
- Department of health

Rationale = To ensure that all young people coming into custody received a full screening for their health in a variety of areas.

Completing CHAT 4 and 5

The Wellbeing team complete parts 4 and 5, although currently only part 5 is completed with young adults (over 18).

CHAT 1 and 2 are completed by primary care nurses and CHAT 3 is completed by the substance misuse teams.

Mental Health Assessment

Completed within 3 days of admission to assess for:

- Depression
- History of Suicide/Self-Harm;
- Anxiety
- Psychosis
- ADHD
- Eating Disorders
- Psychological Trauma

Neurodisability Assessment

Completed within 10 days of admission to assess for :

- Traumatic Brain Injury
- Speech, Language and Communication Impairment
- Learning Disability and Educational Needs
- Autistic Spectrum Disorders

CHAT's completed

CHAT 4 and 5 are completed on all under 18's who are brought into Feltham and CHAT 5 is completed on all over 18's by someone from the mental health team:

- Psychologists
- Assistant Psychologists
- Occupational Therapists
- Community Psychiatric Nurses

Last 6 months

A-Side (Under 18's):

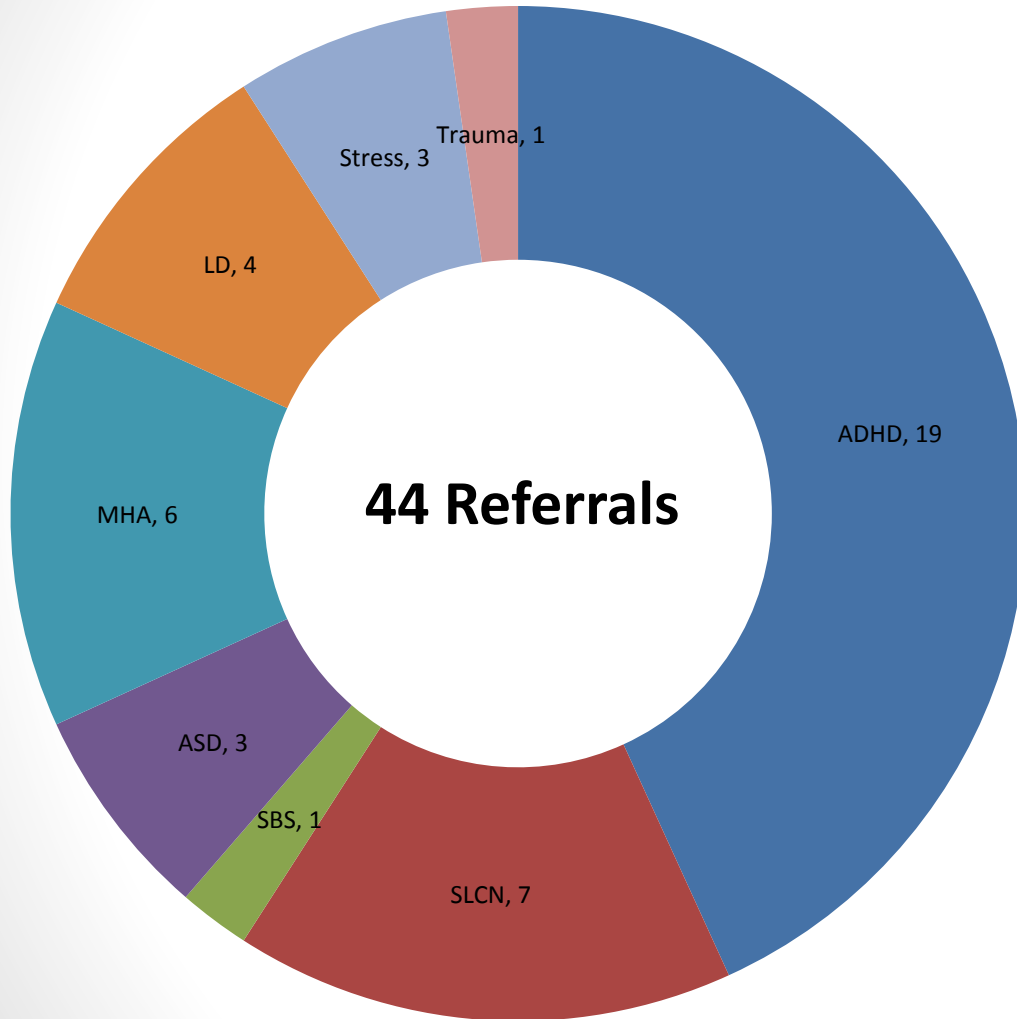
183 admissions

3 CHAT 4 assessments breached (completed after 3 days of admission)

0 CHAT 5 assessments breached (completed within 10 days)

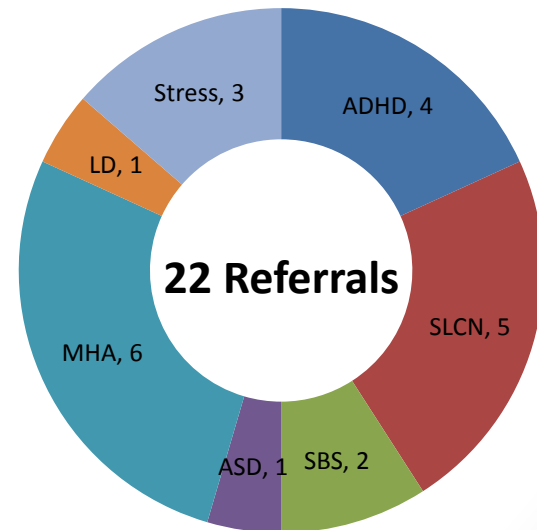
360 assessments completed

Referrals from CHAT 4 + 5



SLCN = Speech, Language & Communication needs
SBS = Sexual Behaviour Service
MHA = Mental Health Assessment

Referrals received post CHAT 4 + 5



Last 6 months

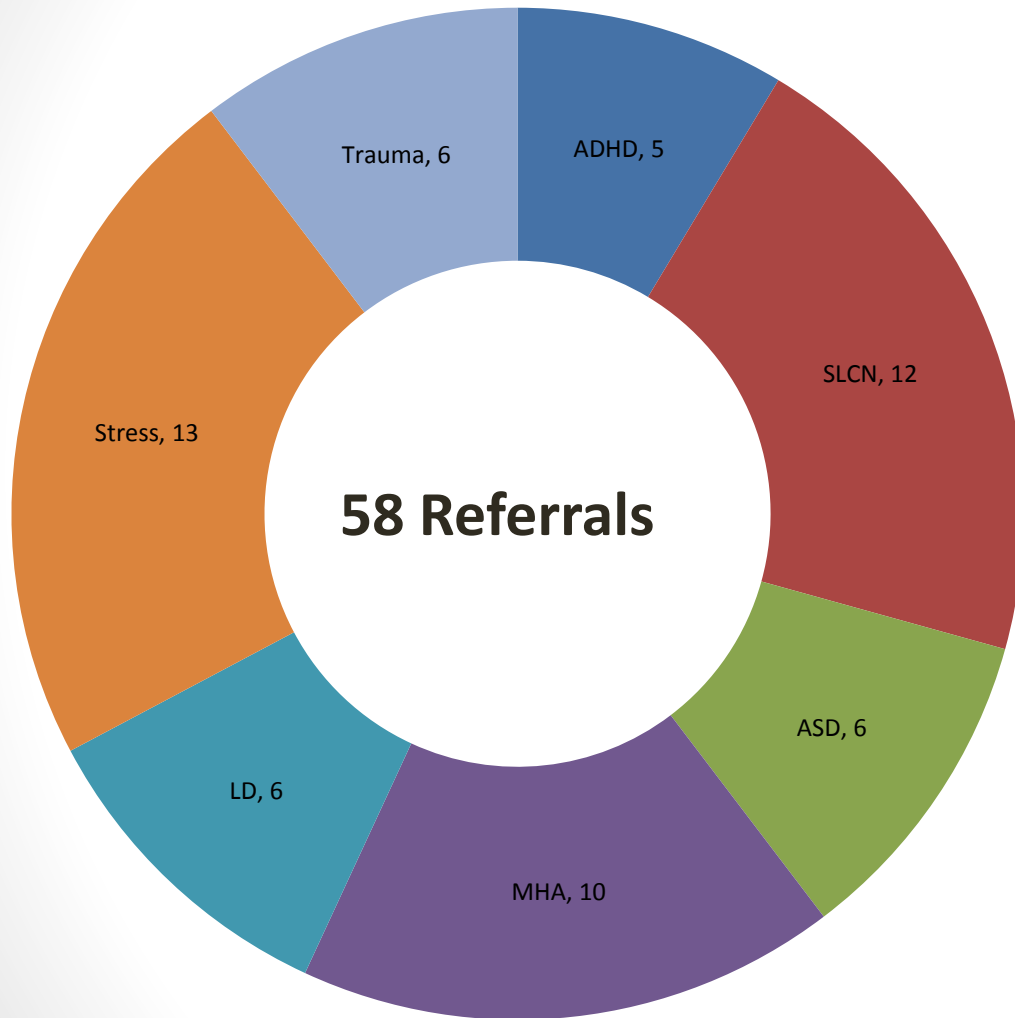
B-Side (Over 18's):

304 admissions

3 CHAT 5 assessments breached (completed
after 10 days of admission)

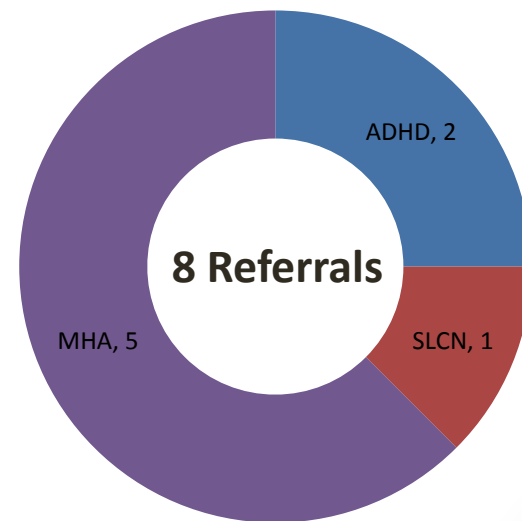
272 assessments completed

Referrals from CHAT 5



SLCN = Speech, Language & Communication needs
SBS = Sexual Behaviour Service
MHA = Mental Health Assessment

Referrals received post CHAT 5

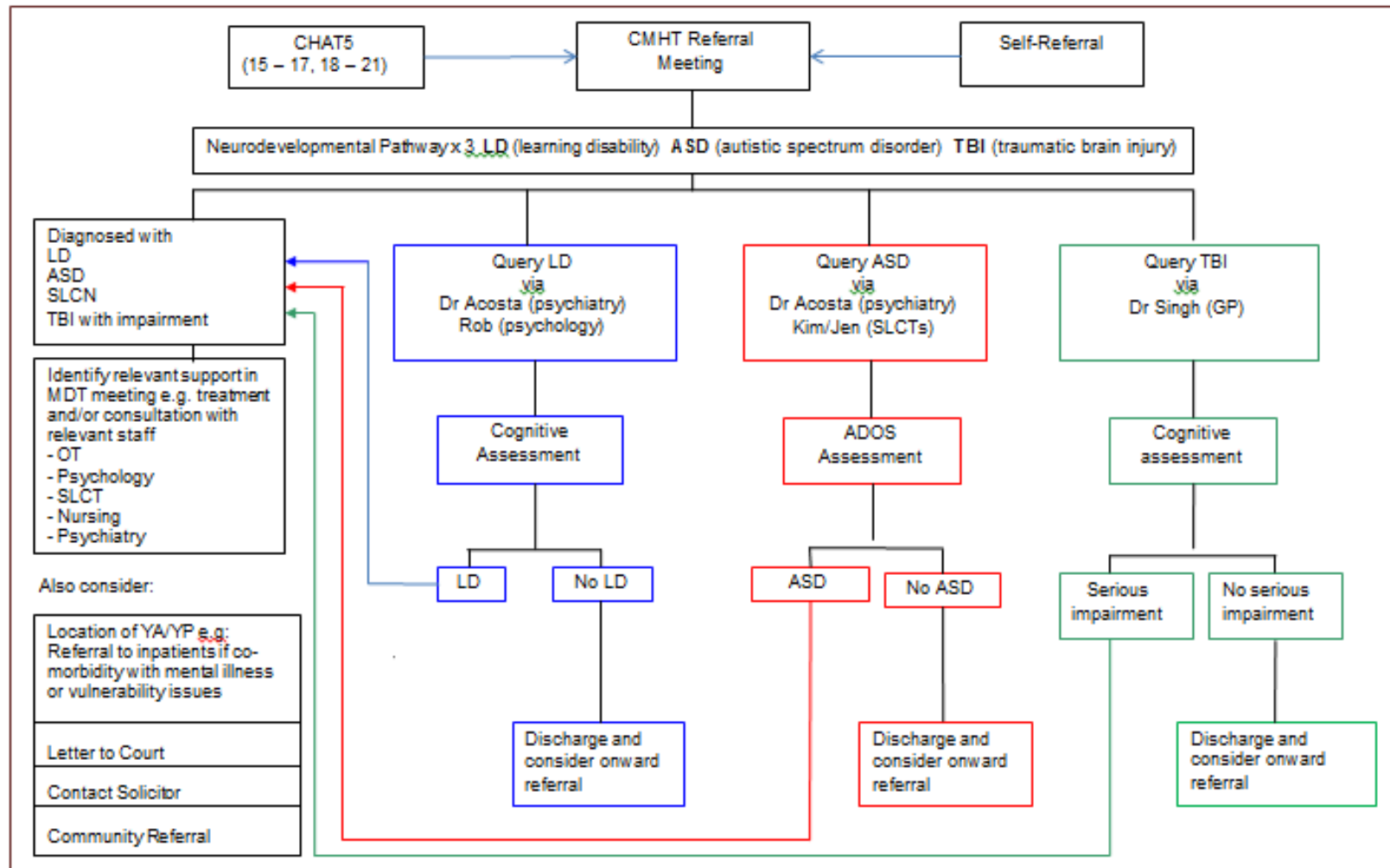


Benefits of screening:

- Every person coming into Feltham is seen by a member of The Wellbeing Team.
- Often those seen for CHAT 5 (neuro pathway) will be highlighted for further mental health assessment follow up

- This ensures early identification of prisoners in difficulty and/or with established mental health problems.
- Interventions can be initiated promptly, as needed, including medication being prescribed if needed.
- Prompt allocation of patients to the most appropriate discipline (SLCT, Psychology, Medical, Nursing, LD, SBS, OT)

Neurodevelopmental Pathway



Disadvantages:

- Time taken to complete the assessments, particularly when linked to expected time limits.
- The tool is a screening tool only, often relies on the skill of the assessor to request further follow up assessment.
- E.g. questions regarding autism require judgement about eye contact, social interaction, yet someone may be quiet due to the shock of being in prison for the first time.

Disadvantages continued:

- Assessments are not compulsory and can be refused.
- Access can be difficult.

All assessments end with explanation regarding how to access the mental health team The Wellbeing Team.