

Change idea

Joint assessments across CNS, CMHT (Community Mental Health Team) and PCMHT (Primary Care Mental Health Team)

Predictions

- Hope that flow will improve between PCMHT to secondary care.
- Should ensure people are accessing the right pathway e.g. may identify people who may not need CNS / more people being accepted by CMHT.
- Hope that CMHT may better understand CNS criteria and offer.

What we are doing

- 3 practitioners were allocated 3 separate joint assessments from Primary Care Team West. These took place over a period of 6 weeks (same timeframe as CNS assessments).
- We offered the joint assessments to identify the correct secondary care pathway across CMHT's and CNS.

How we are measuring change

- Via weekly MDT primary care meeting.
- Data was collected of time spent to conclude the assessments and the outcomes.
- Informal feedback collected from staff and service users.

Learning so far

- Sharing of skills between practitioners in the sessions.
- Acknowledgement from service users that teams are trying to find the right pathway for them.
- CMHT remit remains unclear but has led to better relationship between teams.
- However, process meant some patients trumped others on the waiting list.
- More people added to the waiting list since agreed to undertake joint assessments.

Next steps

- Decision made to stop joint assessments.
- Need to consider how wider teams react and if this will cause inter-team issues.
- Need to ensure teams have a shared understanding of the CNS capacity model.
- Need to consider the growing waiting list and how patients will respond.