

Members needed for Royal College of Psychiatrists Quality Improvement Committee

Background

The Royal College of Psychiatrists works to improve the mental health of individuals, their families and communities. To help achieve this, we set standards, promote excellence, and provide training and education to healthcare professionals. We measure services against standards and make recommendations about how mental health services could improve. We raise awareness about mental health through our campaigns and by providing high quality mental health information to members of the public.

In recent years, an approach known as Quality Improvement, or 'QI', has become increasingly popular in healthcare. QI can be described as a systematic change method that uses specific techniques to improve outcomes and experience. Our mission as a College is to promote and support the greater use of QI in mental health across the UK. To help steer this important work, the College has set up a QI Committee, and we are seeking a patient representative and a carer representative to join this group.

The roles and responsibilities are outlined below, and applicants may apply by sending a CV and application form to Grace.Levy@rcpsych.ac.uk.

Deadline for receipt of applications: 10:00am Monday 26th February 2018

Interviews: Monday 12th March 2018

An introduction to QI can be found [here](#) and [here](#).

Informal enquiries about the roles can be directed to Lucy Palmer
(Lucy.Palmer@rcpsych.ac.uk)

QI Committee Terms of Reference

Purpose of the QI committee:

- To explore ways in which the College can take an education and training lead in QI, including influencing the curriculum for trainee psychiatrists.
- To explore the College's role in disseminating good practice through conferences, publications and other means.
- To explore ways in which the College can become a resource centre for QI work, including convening groups, sharing good practice and methodology, and training in QI methodology.
- To explore ways in which the College can promote leadership in QI.

Membership of the QI Committee

The committee currently consists of a range of psychiatrists and staff members of the College. The committee is chaired by Dr Amar Shah, Associate Medical Director for Quality Improvement & a Consultant Forensic Psychiatrist at East London NHS Foundation Trust.

Terms of office

The position will be held for 2 years, with the successful applicants attending approximately 6 committee meetings during this time.

Frequency and location of meetings

The Q.I Committee meets at the Royal College of Psychiatrists Offices in Aldgate, London. For 2018, the meetings will be held on the following dates:

- Monday 14th May 1-3pm
- Monday 17th September 1-3pm
- Monday 17th December 1-3pm

Conflicts of interest

It is each member's responsibility to declare potential conflicts of interest.

Expenses

Patients and carers are entitled to claim a session fee of £50 per half day or £100 per full day. Travel and subsistence expenses will also be reimbursed in accordance with the policy of the Royal College of Psychiatrists.

Support, supervision and training

Patient and carer members of the QI committee will be provided with a project link person from the College Centre for Quality Improvement (CCQI) and will receive an induction where any support, access or training needs can be discussed. The project link person will be the regular point of contact for the patient and carer representatives and they will be available to answer queries, book travel and provide check-ins after the meetings.

Person Specification

Essential

- Experience of using mental health services or caring for someone who has used mental health services
- Good interpersonal and communication skills
- Ability to work with other committee members to discuss issues and make group decisions
- Experience of or interest in improving the quality of mental health services
- Understanding of issues facing patients and carers from diverse communities
- Willingness to travel to London

Desirable

- Email and internet literate
- Experience of using quality improvement (QI) methods, or conducting service evaluation, research, audit or accreditation