

Overview of national audit of EIP services 2020/2021

Patient information sheet

What does the audit do?

The National Clinical Audit of Psychosis (NCAP) collects data from services to see if people with psychosis are receiving care in line with national guidance. In 2020/2021 we are looking at care received by two groups of people with first episode psychosis: people being treated by Early Intervention in Psychosis (EIP) services and people being treated by Children and Young People's Mental Health (CYPMH) services.

What is happening in 2020/2021?

In 2020/2021, we will be collecting data via a case note audit of services providing care to people with first episode psychosis.

What this means is that services will fill out a questionnaire about the care they have provided to some of the people they treated over the last year (a sample). The questionnaire asks about things like whether people received interventions such as CBTp (Cognitive Behavioural Therapy for Psychosis) or physical health screening. We can then measure how well services are doing at providing different aspects of treatment. The questionnaire covers areas of EIP care important to people being treated and care providers.

Collecting identifiable data in the audit

This year, like we did last year, we will be asking Trusts to provide some personal information – the NHS number, date of birth and postcode for everyone in the sample (this is known as identifiable information). This will only be the case for English Trusts and will not apply to Health Boards in Wales or services in Ireland.

We will not be collecting names or full addresses. We will ensure this information remains confidential and is kept securely (There are more details on this below).

Why will personal information be obtained?

Trusts submit data to NHS Digital each month on the care they provide to each patient. This includes information about the treatment provided to people with first episode psychosis, which are the same data we collect in the case-note audit.

Collecting personal information will allow us to compare the data we collect with the data that Trusts in England submit directly to NHS Digital. You can find out more about these data from [NHS Digital](https://www.nhs.uk/digital).

This is important as in future years of the audit we would like to stop collecting data ourselves and use the NHS Digital data instead. This will reduce the work for services taking part in the audit and leave them more time to care for people.

Have plans for collecting this information been approved?

We need to have special permission to collect identifiable data without asking each person for their consent. This is known as Section 251 approval and gives Trusts the legal permission to provide this information.

In order to get Section 251 approval, we have to prove that we will look after and store these data carefully. We must also show that using identifiable information is the only way to carry out this work. It must also help improve patient care. We can only collect identifiable data if we get this approval. You can find out more about Section 251 approval from the [NHS Health Research Authority](#).

We take our responsibility towards safeguarding and protecting patient data seriously. We will ensure identifiable data are kept confidential and secure.

What can I find out about my rights in relation to this audit?

You can find out more about how we look after data and your rights in our [privacy notice](#). This explains in more detail what data we hold, how we look after it and what we do with it.

When is the audit taking place?

Services will collect data for the case note audit in October 2020 and submit the data online in November 2020.

Who will take part?

EIP Teams will be asked to provide information on the care provided to a random selection of people receiving care from their team or a CYPMH service.

What happens if I don't want my information to be used?

If you don't want data on your care to be included in the case note audit, you can choose to opt-out. Opting out of the audit will not affect the care you receive. To opt out, please [contact us](#) and let us know. We will need to ask for your date of birth, your postcode, your NHS number (if you know it), and the EIP team you are being treated by. If it's before 1st December 2020, we may have to ask you to contact your Trust/organisation to opt-out. You can find more information about

this via the opt-out poster on our [website](#). If you would like to discuss any concerns about your information being used or would like any help in opting out, please speak to your care coordinator or The Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS) in your local Trust.

How can I find the results?

We will produce a report with the results of the audit which will be published in Summer 2021. This will let you know how your local Trust, organisation or Health Board is doing. It will also help the Government understand what EIP care is being provided across the country and where improvements are needed. The report will provide information at a National and Trust, organisation or Health Board level, so it will not be possible to identify any individual in the report.

The results will help organisations understand more about the care they are providing, how it compares to national standards and how they might work to improve it for people who will use the service in the future.

Who can I contact if I have any questions?

If you have any questions about the audit, please contact the [NCAP team](#).