

Spotlight on Research

HoNOS-secure improvements reported in Psychiatric Bulletin



Providing meaningful outcome data has consistently proved a challenge for the mental health sector. In response to this, St Andrew's together with the Royal College of Psychiatrists developed an adaptation of the Health of the Nation Outcome Scale for in patient settings; HoNOS-secure. The original 12 items were modified and coupled with an additional 7 which track and evaluate a service user's need for secure care and risk management.

At St Andrew's this information is used as an outcome measure within a "Balanced Scorecard" approach, generating 90 day improvement rates based on two sets of scores taken at different times. St Andrew's data was the first to be published in Psychiatric Bulletin, reporting on the UK's largest and most diverse service user population, the data demonstrated strengthening evidence of effectiveness over time.

Training seminars on the use of HoNOS-secure are available and the full paper is downloadable from our website at www.stah.org.

Academic Centre update

The St Andrew's Academic Centre, located on our Northampton campus was formed in partnership with the Department of Forensic and Neurodevelopmental Sciences at the Institute of Psychiatry. Dedicated to innovative research, the centre will be home to an expanding team of high calibre academics and post graduate students to carry out specialist mental health research and teaching.

Recently, two PhD candidates have been appointed and are due to

begin working on a project studying biological markers in challenging behaviour in schizophrenia. As a national centre, we have the most extensive secure service user population in the UK, giving us the ideal environment to conduct ethical and effective research.

In addition, 17 senior clinicians have been awarded honorary research positions with the Institute of Psychiatry, gaining access to the wealth of resources available to utilise for research.

**Institute of
Psychiatry**

at The Maudsley

**KING'S
College
LONDON**

University of London

Quality Assurance for Forensic Services

A large audience gathered on December 4th for the 3rd Annual Conference on Secure Mental Health Services organised by St Andrew's, Essex in collaboration with the South Essex Partnership Trust and focused on the theme of quality assurance for forensic services.

Prominent speakers addressed the issues around launching new services in the absence of government guidelines, and the difficulties faced when adapting those services to meet new criteria at a later date. The afternoon session was led by discussions identifying how the quality of services could be assessed through outcome measures with a clear focus on value for money, a key concern for cash-strapped commissioners.

To obtain copies of the slides email us at help@standrew.co.uk or read the full review online at www.stah.org/events



Dates for your diary

St Andrew's Healthcare invites you to three CPD events to be held in 2010:

Friday 5 March 2010

Seeing both sides of the risk assessment coin: The last 20 years of Structured Professional Judgment risk assessment and into the future

St Andrew's Healthcare, Northampton

Prominent speakers including Prof Chris Webster will discuss the validation and implementation of a number of SPJ tools that assess the risk of violence in mental health patients or those within the criminal justice system including HCR-20. The development and pending revision of these tools as well as the link risk management will be reviewed. An introduction to the START tool will be covered as well as an overview of emerging SPJ guides, including those for children and adolescents.



Friday 26 March 2010

Legal Aspects of Clinical Psychiatry: Mental Health Act 1983 (Am.2007) A clinician's guide to the Amended Health Act

St Andrew's Healthcare, Northampton

Chaired by Prof Tom Fahy, Professor of Forensic and Neurodevelopmental Science at the Institute of Psychiatry this one day master-class is aimed at those responsible for the detention and treatment of patients with mental health problems to address the real significance of the amendments and their influence on clinical psychiatry.



Friday 6 May 2010

Mentally Disordered Offenders in the Criminal Justice System: Meeting the Challenge

Institute of Psychiatry, London

This one day meeting will focus on the issues around the assessment and management of mentally disordered offenders in the prison service and their transfer to secure mental health. Speakers have been confirmed and more details will follow soon



To view full events listings, download booking forms or videos from past events go to www.stah.org/events

Recently published papers

January 2010

Dein, K. Asperger Syndrome and criminal behaviour.

Advances in Psychiatric Treatment, 16, 37-43

Sugarman, P et al. Choice in mental health: participation and recovery.

The Psychiatrist (2010) 34, 1-3

December 2009

Beber et al. Marriage and family life in people with developmental disability.

International Journal of Culture and Mental Health, 2:2, 102-108

Jenkins, K et al. Retrograde amnesia and malingering.

Current Opinion in Neurology, 22 (6), 601-605

November 2009

Burdon, L et al. Asperger Syndrome and offending behaviour.

Learning Disability Practice, 12 (9) 14-20

Picchioni, M et al. Clinical significance of neurological abnormalities in psychosis.

Advances in psychiatric treatment (2009), 15, 419-427

October 2009

Dickens, G et al. Recidivism and dangerousness in arsonists.

The Journal of Forensic Psychiatry and Psychology
doi:10.1080/14789940903174006

For full listings and more published papers visit

www.stah.org/research

For more information about St Andrew's Academic Centre, published papers or events head to www.stah.org/research

