

# Qualitative theme analysis of positive practice reports of joint mental health and primary care service innovations in the United Kingdom

Co-authors: S. Afghan<sup>1</sup>, R. Faruqui<sup>2,3</sup>, P. Wilson<sup>2</sup>, C. Gerada<sup>4</sup>.

<sup>1</sup>Dudley & Walsall Mental Health Partnership Trust & University of Wolverhampton- UK, Mental Health, Walsall, United Kingdom.

<sup>2</sup>University of Kent, Primary Care Academic Unit- Centre for Health Services Studies, Canterbury, United Kingdom.

<sup>3</sup>Kent & Medway NHS Partnership Trust, East Kent Neuropsychiatry Service, Ashford, United Kingdom.

<sup>4</sup>Medical Director NHS Practitioners Health Programme & Former Chair RCGP, NHS Practitioner Health Programme, London, United Kingdom.

## Background and aims

Quality enhancement requires an on-going process of service innovation and reporting.

We conducted a survey of UK Psychiatrists to identify service innovation areas enhancing joint working between primary care and mental health services.

## Methods

We conducted an Online Survey for the Royal College of Psychiatrists. Survey respondents were invited to report on positive practice innovations between the secondary or tertiary care psychiatric services and primary care. A qualitative thematic analysis of 336 responses was conducted using line-by-line analysis technique and the grounded theory until a saturation point was reached.

## Results– five core innovation themes extracted:

<p><b>1. Teaching and Training:</b> Examples include Dementia Masterclasses, Liaison Psychiatry Teaching in the General Hospital, and Joint CPD opportunities organized locally and nationally</p> <p><b>3. Co-Working Pilots in Secondary and Tertiary Care Mental Health:</b> Examples include Primary Care Liaison in Secure Care services and Acute Learning Disability Liaison</p> <p><b>5. Information Management System Innovations:</b> Examples include joint access to investigations' record, and joint crisis management recording</p>	<p><b>2. Co-Working Pilots in Primary Care:</b> Examples include Consultant Clinics in GP Surgeries, Joint Clinics for Medically Unexplained Symptoms, Joint CPA Clinics for People with Serious Mental Illness, Crisis Link through CRHT teams, and Community Matron Liaison for Older Adults' Admission Avoidance</p> <p><b>4. Workforce Innovations:</b> Examples include deployment of Primary Care Mental Health Nurses, Primary Care Link Workers, Telephone Liaison and Advisory Service</p>
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## Conclusion

Our analysis has identified multiple areas of innovative practice and joint-working between the psychiatrists and primary care in the UK. Reported service innovations are likely to enhance quality of patient experience and staff training.

## Future plans

The thematic analyses has identified following key areas where potential strategic drivers and opportunities exist for further expansion in the light of recent National Health Service (NHS) plans:

1. Review of current curriculum and training needs for psychiatrists, GPs and other clinicians and equip them with evidence-based knowledge, skills and practices relevant to primary care mental health.
2. To consider carrying out mapping exercises and research into opportunities for further expansion in shared / connected information systems at the primary care & secondary care interface.
3. To campaign for mental health trusts, STPs and CCGs to encourage local clinicians (psychiatrists and GPs) to promote cultural shift and establish proactive channels of communication/connectedness for improving patient pathway.