Mental Health of Older Adults and Dementia
Clinical Academic Group (CAG)

Specialist home treatment for older adults with mental health problems

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On behalf of the home treatment team
Why home treatment?

• Within working age adult mental health services home treatment has been implemented to provide an alternative to inpatient admission where possible.

• Inpatient care can be associated with loss of everyday skills and increased likelihood of admission to care home for older people.

• Home treatment has not been implemented widely for older people, a fact highlighted by service users and carers locally and nationally.

• Home treatment represents an opportunity for older adult mental health services to meet the productivity challenge facing the NHS.
What was the approach to service innovation?

• A strong and supportive coalition of multi-disciplinary clinicians and managers able to present a robust case for a one year pilot

• Employed an engaging leadership model effective in home treatment services (Alimo-Metcalfe & Alban-Metcalfe, 2008)
  
  ➢ Engagement of stakeholders
  
  ➢ Sensitive facilitation of change
  
  ➢ Focus on team well-being and development

• Data collection, analysis and sharing to enable service development

• Process mapping approach to collect service user and carer experience
Activity and outcomes to date

• Coming to the end of one year pilot and completing an evaluation report

• High rate of referrals for home treatment and effective ‘gatekeeping’ i.e., team involvement in referrals for inpatient admission

• Clinician rating outcomes measured using HoNOS65+ (12 scales range of health and social domains) show significant improvement in difficulties from start to finish of home treatment episode of care ($t = 5.44(93), p = .000$).

• Service user and carer feedback highlighted the skills of the team and changes achieved during home treatment

• The team has been positively reviewed by commissioners and outcomes to date have resulted in a commission for similar service provision in a neighbouring borough

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