

## Healthwatch LLR Quarterly Meeting with CEO LPT NHS Trust

### Question and Answers for Submission 6 November 2015

Chris Faircliffe	Board Member - Healthwatch Leicestershire	Chair of LPT Quarterly Meetings
Vandna Gohil	Director, Healthwatch Leicestershire	
Yachna Desai	Advisor - Healthwatch Leicestershire	Coordinator of Quarterly Meetings
David Henson	Executive Officer -Healthwatch Leicester	
Peter Miller	Chief Executive	LPT NHS Trust Board
Becky Millward	Patient Experience & Partnership Manager	LPT NHS Trust Board

The questions have been submitted from HW Leicestershire signposting enquiries. There was also a call out to members for questions with a focus on Adult Mental Health.

Question 1	<b>Services for Alzheimer's under 65 years old</b> What services are available for younger people with dementia/Alzheimer's within Leicestershire and how would they access them?
Background	Caller was concerned about the lack of support her husband had received a diagnosis of early onset of Alzheimer's. After 18 months the patient was referred to the 'younger' persons memory clinic, not by the GP but a psychiatrist. The service was then closed down and her husband was transferred to an older persons community mental health team.
LPT Response	The Young Onset Dementia Assessment Service (YODAS) which replaces Younger Person's Memory Service (YPMS) within the Mental Health Service for Older People (MHSOP), commenced in March 2015. YODAS offers a specialised, hospital-based assessment service for people under the age of 65 years with cognitive impairment and/or memory problems, suspected to be due to a progressive neurodegenerative disorder. The service is aimed to provide a specialist diagnostic assessment service, clinic-based, for people between the ages of 40 and 65, presenting with cognitive problems, suspected to be due to a dementia. Following assessment and diagnosis, the care of the patients will be transferred to the locality MHSOP memory services or CMHT for cholinesterase inhibitors or other pharmacological intervention and further clinical inputs, if they have progressive dementia. Those with mild

	cognitive impairment and non progressive conditions will be discharged back to primary care. People with any underlying medical or psychiatric disorders other than dementia will be referred back to respective services for further treatment. For further details please see leaflet attached. Hard copies are available on request.
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Question 2	<p><b>Access to medication</b></p> <p>If a patient is suffering from agoraphobia (extreme or irrational fear of open or public places) how can they access medication if their GP refuses to write them a prescription?</p> <p>Can they be referred to a community team?</p> <p>What are the processes?</p>
Background	The patient suffers from agoraphobia and has mental health issues. His GP has sent him a letter to say that they will not provide any more medication (antidepressants/blood pressure tablets) unless the patient visits the GP. The GP is not prepared to do a home visit.
LPT Response	<p>It is difficult to give a full response without further information to understand why the GP might feel it inappropriate to prescribe further medication or to make a home visit, and no knowledge of whether the GP and patient have communicated via telephone.</p> <p>We can say that if the patient is already open to our services they can request a home visit from a member of our team by contacting their mental healthcare professional or via their GP. They could then be assessed for possible referral for CBT to support them with their agoraphobia. A referral to the specialist service can be made by their LPT healthcare professional or their GP.</p> <p>If they are not already open to our services they could make a request that the GP refer them to community mental health services for assessment.</p>

## Mental Health Services for Older People (MHSOP) Younger Onset Dementia Assessment Service (YODAS)

The Younger Onset Dementia Assessment Service (YODAS) which replaces Younger Person's Memory Service (YPMS) within the Mental Health Service for Older People (MHSOP), will commence from March 2015. YODAS will offer a specialised, hospital-based assessment service for people < 65 years with cognitive impairment and/or memory problems, suspected to be due to a progressive neurodegenerative disorder.

The service is aimed to provide a specialist diagnostic assessment service, clinic-based, for people between the ages of 40 and 65, presenting with cognitive

problems, suspected to be due to a dementia. Following assessment and diagnosis, the care of the patients will be transferred to the locality MHSOP memory services or CMHT for cholinesterase inhibitors or other pharmacological intervention and further clinical inputs, if they have progressive dementia. Those with mild cognitive impairment and non-progressive conditions will be discharged back to primary care. People with any underlying medical or psychiatric disorders other than dementia will be referred back to respective services for further treatment.

Locality	Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland
Patient access points	<b>The Neville Centre</b> , Leicester General Hospital Site, Gwendolen Road, Leicester. LE5 4PW
Base	The Evington Centre, Gwendolen Road, Leicester. LE5 4QG
Hours of business	9:00am - 5:00pm, Tuesday - Wednesday
Referral Criteria	<p><b>Referrals will be accepted by the YODAS Clinic</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>For people between the ages of 40 and 65 years, who have a history of cognitive impairment suspected to be due to a dementia. Potential referrals for people who are younger than 40 years of age will need prior discussion with the consultant</li> <li>For people with psychoactive substance use, they should have cut down on psychoactive substance use including alcohol for at least six months and be abstinent for two months</li> </ul> <p>For all internal referrals (such as gen adult psychiatry), an Addenbrooke's Cognitive Examination (ACE) III or revised, should be completed where possible, and a copy of the completed ACE-III should be forwarded together with the referral letter to the YODAS clinic. There should also be a full review of the treatment of any pre-existing conditions such as depression, to ensure that they have been adequately treated.</p> <p><b>Referrals will NOT be accepted by the YODAS Clinic</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>If there is a pre-existing mental health diagnosis which accounts for their cognitive impairment (chronic schizophrenia); or a pre-existing physical diagnosis which accounts for their cognitive impairment (CADASIL); or history of acquired brain injury which accounts for their cognitive impairment; and for people who are drug or alcohol dependent at the time of the referral. People for whom there is a possibility of cognitive impairment being related to emotional disorder (such as depression, anxiety) or physical disorders (hypothyroidism, vitamin deficiencies), this needs effective treatment prior to referral</li> <li>People with learning disabilities including Down's syndrome should be referred to psychiatry services for learning disabilities (details on page XX)</li> </ul>
How to refer	By letter directly to YODAS, The Evington, Centre Gwendolen Road, Leicester. LE5 4QG Please feel free to discuss potential referrals with the YODAS team/consultant on Tuesday mornings (0116 225 6143)
Referrals can be received from	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>GP</li> <li>Healthcare professionals (LPT and UHL)</li> </ul>
Additional information	Community Manager Memory Services The Neville Centre Leicester General Hospital Site Gwendolen Road Leicester LE5 4PW Tel: 0116 295 4636