Building Capability in NSW Health Services for People with Intellectual Disability: THE ESSENTIALS

THE ESSENTIALS sits at the front of a RESOURCE PACK

The focus of the ESSENTIALS is a self-assessment checklist against suggested actions to help deliver quality health support.

THE RESOURCE PACK is a suite of documents, resources and background research undertaken or compiled by the Network to guide the provision of health supports to people with intellectual disability.

An extensive consultation process with representatives from across LHDs in NSW including clinicians, managers, carers and patients as well as our partners from other government and non-government sectors, has directly shaped the content and the format of this important resource. It will soon be available on our website for feedback.

The Context Report and Toolkit form part of the RESOURCE PACK.

THE ESSENTIALS sits at the front of the RESOURCE PACK.

The focus of THE ESSENTIALS is a self-assessment checklist against practical suggestions for actions to help deliver quality health support.

It also contains a list of principles and consumer reported experience measures which can show when people with ID are receiving quality health care.

Resources which support the suggestions for action are listed and hyperlinked as appropriate.

Network members will be advised when the ESSENTIALS goes onto the ACI Website for feedback, with a launch planned for mid-2017.
Co-Chairs Update: Ms Maria Heaton, Ms Jenny Martin & Prof. Les White

The Executive Group of the Intellectual Disability (ID) Health Network looks forward to getting your feedback on the ESSENTIALS when it is launched as an online interactive website, later this year. It comes at a time when transition to the NDIS has highlighted the importance of health services for people with ID and it aligns nicely with the NSW Health Disability Inclusion Action Plan.

Prof. Les White has retired as NSW Chief Paediatrician, currently continuing his position as Network Co-Chair until a suitable replacement is found. The Network has also decided to adopt a three Co-Chair model to lead the Executive Group. Jenny Martin, Director Allied Health; Children, Young People & Families Services Hunter New England Local Health District, has accepted the position as the Network’s third Co-Chair. We welcome her skills and expertise, especially from a regional area which was the launch site of the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS). The next phase is for the Executive Group to identify the process for electing a new medical Co-Chair. Maria Heaton will remain as the carer Co-Chair.

The three Ministry of Health funded ID Health Teams (NSLHD, SCHN, SESLHD) have received funding until June 2018. The KPMG evaluation of their services has now concluded and the Ministry of Health, Health and Social Policy Branch (formerly Integrated Care Branch) has recently established an Advisory Group to assist with guidance and to inform future decision-making. Prof. Les White is a member of that Advisory Group.

EOI - subcommittee membership

In 2017, as we launch the ESSENTIALS and seek to partner with LHDs and PHNs and NGOs on improving health services for people with intellectual disability, we are seeking clinicians from within health and representatives from the NGO sector for subcommittee membership.

All subcommittees seek to improve health services for people with intellectual disability.

The Network’s four subcommittees are:
- Models of Care
- Workforce and Capacity
- R&D
- Access and Equity.

They meet 4 times a year for 2 hours at Ryde or via teleconference. Each has representatives from the community and from health, other government agencies and from the NGO sector.

Please email Tracey.szanto@health.nsw.gov.au to find out more.

Catalogue of Current Research in ID in NSW

If you have not yet completed the Network’s on line survey asking about your current research in ID in NSW please go here. This will help us to keep the Catalogue of Current Research and Gap Analysis up to date. The Catalogue will again be available on the ACI website when complete.

The research survey analysis and the Research Guidelines are available on the ACI website.
ID Global Partnership Symposium –
August 2016 (Sydney)
Enhancing research, policy and practice in intellectual disability in NSW – hosted by FACS and ACI.
This symposium presented some of the latest developments in the health of people with intellectual disability as presented by leading international speakers. The presentations can be accessed from the ACI website here.

An Interest Group for Nurses with an Interest in Intellectual Disability
CNC Gail Tomsic and the ACI ID Health Network have established an Interest Group for Nurses with an interest in Intellectual Disability who want information about services, resources and expert advice from their colleagues. Please go here to express your interest or to sign up to be involved in the quarterly one hour teleconferences.

Other Recent Articles / Items of Interest
- Factsheets for NSW Health Staff about the NIDIS are available on the NSW Health intranet under health topics – disability.
- The ID Health Team based in Fairfield NSW has recently published - “Assessing health needs of children with intellectual disabilities: a formative evaluation of a pilot service - ID Co – Design”
- The NSW Health Disability Inclusion Action Plan (DIAP) is available on the NSW Health website
- A series of new modules about intellectual disability and mental disorder now available on UNSW e-learning site
- NSW Ombudsman Rights Project for People with Disability Resources Table
- FACS / ADHC Oral care resource kit for people with disability and other support resources, including booklets for providers and service users and videos.
- Article about teaching in intellectual disability health available for future Australian doctors - Improving the capacity of future doctors to provide healthcare for people with intellectual disability

- Health status and risk factors of Australians with disability
Australian Institute of Health and Welfare; 2016. This report examines how health-related factors affect the health status of Australians with disability at the national population level.

Co-Designed Video about Hospitalisation
The ACI Patient Experience and Consumer Engagement (PEACE) Team promotes meaningful engagement and consumer-led redesign of healthcare. The PEACE team partnered with SESLHD Metro – Regional ID Team using Co-Design methodology for improving the hospitalisation of people with ID.

One of the outcomes is an awareness raising and teaching video from the perspective of the person with ID and his carer and also from the medical profession. It can be viewed here on the ACI website.

Watch this space for the launch of the ESSENTIALS

For more information on the ID Health Network, contact the Network manager, Tracey Szanto
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