Welcome!
Welcome to the June Issue of the NHS Yorkshire and the Humber Clinical Network (YHCN) bulletin that aims to bring you the latest news and information about dementia in the region. Please forward to your networks and colleagues.

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Dementia CN programme update
As a CN we work with clinical commissioning groups, local authority commissioners and service providers across the Yorkshire and Humber region to improve the quality of care and services for people living with dementia and their families.

Dementia Clinical Network Work Programme
The priorities included in our work programme for 2016/17 have been identified following consultation with stakeholders. The programme is structured in line with The Well Pathway for Dementia published by NHS England to support measurable improvements in dementia care and will be uploaded to our website soon.

National Access and Waiting Time Standard
A National Access and Waiting Time Standard is being developed for dementia, to support the commitment within the Prime Minister’s Challenge 2020 that the national average wait from referral to an initial assessment should be six weeks and that no one should wait several months for an initial assessment. Yorkshire and Humber are well represented on the Expert Reference Group and Wayne Goddard, NHS Doncaster CCG is the lead commissioner for this work. Publication of a guidance document which includes the waiting time standard is expected in late autumn.

Dementia Diagnosis Rates
Dementia diagnosis rates for the end of April have been published [HERE](#). The estimated national diagnosis rate for people with dementia as at end-April was 66.4%. For Yorkshire & Humber it is 69.8%. This was down 2% from end-March 2016 rate, which was 71.8%. This change may be accounted for by the annual change in the estimate of dementia prevalence. Each financial year the prevalence estimate is recalculated to take account of demographic changes; the April 2016 data presented in this note are the first using prevalence estimates based on the ONS population projections for 2016 rather than the 2015 projections used in 2015-16. The cessation of the dementia enhanced service at the end of March may also be a contributing factor.
DiADeM

The DiADeM (Diagnosis of Dementia Mandate) tool is available to help GPs make a diagnosis of advanced dementia for care home residents. Some residents with advanced dementia have never had a formal diagnosis of dementia and a referral to memory services is likely to be distressing for the individual and is unlikely to be necessary. Care home managers have reported that a diagnosis enables access to appropriate care and can prompt staff to consider MCA and DOLs issues where appropriate. The Clinical Network is promoting use of DiADeM alongside the DeAR-GP tool which has been developed by South London HIN to act as a communication aid between care workers and health professionals.

***New Resource – ECG Guidance***

New guidance for the Assessment of Cardiac Status Before Prescribing Acetyl Cholinesterase Inhibitors (AChEIs) is now available. The guidance suggests that the evidence base does not support the routine use of ECG in all patients prior to commencing AChEIs. However there is a defined cohort of patients for whom an ECG prior to starting AChEIs is recommended.

Quality Improvement Awards

This year’s Quality Improvement Awards sponsored by the Dementia Action Alliances, working together with the Dementia Clinical Networks in Yorkshire & the Humber and Greater Manchester, Lancashire and South Cumbria celebrated the great work in dementia care across ‘Across the Pennines’.

The competition was exceedingly high and the judges had a tough time deciding on the winner, or winners! The ‘joint’ winners are:

Dr Fahmid Chowdhury, Dr Chirag Patel, Dr Anilkumar Pillai, Dr Gregor Russell and Dr Tolu Olusoga from Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust, Bradford and District Care FT, Tees, Esk and Wear Valleys NHS FT on their project titled ‘Developing and evaluating a regional brain imaging service for patients with difficult to diagnose dementia’.

And

Janine Smith and Tracey Abbott from NAViGO Health and Social Care CIC on their excellent ‘Home from Home’ project. Both presentations and those from the other three finalists can be viewed online here.

You can see the tweeter activity from this event here.

Upcoming YH CN dementia events and meetings

- **Regional Dementia Leads Group**, 28th June 2016, 9.30-12.30, Mid Yorkshire Golf Club, WF8 3BP
- **Acute Dementia Champions Group**, 13th July 2016, 14:00-16:30, Hatfield Hall, WF3 4JP

Other events

- **Promoting Excellence - The Third Conference**: A Moral Obligation
News

Dementia in Care Homes
The Alzheimer’s Society has published Fix dementia care: NHS and care homes. This report marks the second phase of an Alzheimer’s Society campaign looking at the experiences of people with dementia in a range of health and care settings. It contains the results of a survey of care home managers and the voices of people with dementia, their families and carers. The report sets out recommendations for the government and NHS to improve the experiences of people with dementia in care homes.

Dementia Rarely Travels Alone
The All Party Parliamentary Group on Dementia’s new report was released in April titled - Dementia Rarely Travels Alone: living with dementia and other conditions. This inquiry has brought to light the scale of difficulty faced by people living with dementia and other health conditions.

Last month, a report published by The International Longevity Centre also demonstrates that there is a pressing need for action to improve how comorbid medical conditions are prevented, diagnosed, treated and managed for people with dementia in the UK.

Dementia Survey
At the start of Dementia Awareness Week 2016, the Alzheimer’s Society published the results of a survey showing that 56% of people are putting off seeking a dementia diagnosis for up to a year or more. The Alzheimer’s Society is calling on people to confront dementia, be aware that they can do something about it and go to the charity for help and support.

Older People’s health and Wellbeing Profile
PHE have launched the Older People's Health and Wellbeing profile which can be used to examine the health and care of older people across local authorities in England. This tool enables identification, comparison and monitoring of trends through interactive maps and charts of over 100 indicators. The Atlas is designed to support those responsible for delivering strategies for prevention and early intervention to improve the health and wellbeing of older adults, as well as those providing evidence and intelligence to support the development of Joint Strategic Needs Assessments for their local area.

Dementia Practice Development Coach (DPDC)
Commencing autumn 2016 (subject to approval) the University of Worcester will be running the first course to train professionals to become a Dementia Practice Development Coach (DPDC). This role is key to delivering the FITS (Focused Intervention Training and Support). More information can be found here.

Sharing Practice from Yorkshire and the Humber
Blueprint for Dementia Friendly Performances
Two years after hosting its first dementia friendly performance, West Yorkshire Playhouse has released a best-practice guide to putting on similar shows.
Top Tips for Dementia
Dr Sara Humphrey, CN GP Advisor for Dementia has developed some ‘Top Tips’ for primary care practitioners in dementia care.

Delirium Awareness Video
Beyond the boundaries of Yorkshire and the Humber, Dr M S Krishnan and Dr Sophia Bennett, Old Age Psychiatrists from Tees, Esk and Wear Valleys NHS Foundation Trust in collaboration with Stockton and Hartlepool Councils and CCG have developed a Delirium video. Delirium in older adults often goes unrecongnised by health care professionals and can be poorly managed. This video was produced with the aim of improving recognition and management of delirium in any healthcare setting. If you have difficulty accessing the Youtube link, you can try this vimeo link.

Dementia Awareness Week
As part of Dementia Awareness Week we have been promoting the use of the #yhdementia to share events and practice across Yorkshire and the Humber. You can view a selection of the pictures here. Lots of other twitter activity can be seen including podcasts, radio broadcasts, twitter chats, videos and more by searching #yhdementia from your twitter account. Thank you tweeps for using #yhdementia

We also teamed up with the University of Bradford to run a series of lunchtime webinars. Recordings will be available to view here.

South West Yorkshire NHS Foundation Trust hosted two Twitter chats during Dementia Awareness Week. The transcripts can be accessed here and here.

Twitter #yhdementia
Got something to tweet about dementia in the Yorkshire and Humber area? Use the #yhdementia to tag your tweet. Or, grab your binoculars and come and follow us @yhscn_mhdn.

Research

The current and future impact of late-onset dementia in the UK
This report estimates the burden of late-onset dementia in the United Kingdom through to 2025 and assesses the impact of potential interventions. It suggests that by 2025 the disability adjusted life year (DALY) burden of dementia will have increased by 42% from the Global Disease Burden (GDB) 2010 estimate. The risk of developing dementia increases markedly with age, and with the global population – both developed and developing countries – ageing rapidly, dementia has the potential to be a major future health concern.

Are you involved in a research project in Yorkshire and Humber? We would love to hear from you. Please contact Nicola.phillis@nhs.net with details of your project.

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