

Cooperation And Working Together (CAWT)

WHSSB Self Harm Registry Newsletter

In This Issue

- ◆ The Background
- ◆ How Will It Work
- ◆ Meet the Team
- ◆ How you can help

Self Harm Registry Project – The Background

Welcome to the first issue of the Self-Harm Registry Newsletter. The aim of this newsletter is to keep you informed about the progress of the project, the issues surrounding the project and to raise awareness of self-harm in our hospitals across the WHSSB area. The pilot project will involve establishing a registry of self-harm in the Western Health and Social Services Board of Northern Ireland. The project will link with the work of the Irish National Registry of Deliberate Self Harm, which has been in operation in the republic of Ireland since 2000. For this pilot project, pertinent information will be collated on the incidence of hospital attendance due to self-harm behaviour at the A&E Departments in Altnagelvin, Tyrone County and Erne Hospitals. Analysing this information will inform the development of policies and shape the implementation of measures aimed at preventing suicide and self harm and the after care that is provided for self harm patients. The project will run for one year initially and during this time this newsletter will be used to provide you with an update on the progress of the project. The increasing rates of deliberate self-harm reflect the high level of psychological/psychiatric morbidity in the population. This highlights the need for a systematic approach to understanding self-harm behaviour and implementing actions to prevent self-harm and support vulnerable people.

Self Harm Registry – How Will It Work?

Information will be collated on the number and rate of self harm presentations to each of the A&E departments in Altnagelvin, Tyrone County and Erne hospitals by gender, age, geographic area, pattern of presentation by hour and day of week and the nature of self harming behaviour. The Footman-Walker/Symphony A&E computer system is in place in two of the three hospitals in the WHSSB catchment area and allows for the recording of a text description of why the individual presented to the A&E department. Using the text description entered the Data Registration Officer will identify cases of self-harm. Amanda O'Carroll, Data Registration Officer, will collect the Registry data and will examine the data relating to each of these potential cases of self harm and exclude those presentations that do not meet the Registry's inclusion criteria. Presentations that meet the inclusion criteria will be recorded and will then be incorporated into the National Self-Harm Registry in National University of Cork in the Republic of Ireland. The data will be in an anonymised format.

Self Harm Registry Pilot Project Management Structure

CAWT Management Board

Steering Group

Martin Bell, *DHSSPNI*
Dorothy Hutchinson, *WHSSB*
Barry McGale, *WHCT*
Bernard McAnaney, *WHCT*
Prof. Ivan Perry, *NSRF, Cork*
Paul Corcoran, *NSRF, Cork*
Dr Denise O'Hagan, *WHSSB*
Edel O'Doherty, *CAWT*
Amanda O'Carroll, *CAWT*

Project Executive
Edel O'Doherty, *CAWT*

Project Team

Dr Sophie Graber, *WHCT*
Edel O'Doherty, *CAWT*
Denise O'Hagan, *WHSSB*
John Havord, *WHCT*
Paul Corcoran, *NSRF, Cork*
Peter Moran, *WHSSB*
Amanda O'Carroll, *CAWT*

Data Registration Officer
Amanda O'Carroll, *CAWT*

Project Steering Group

The Project Steering Group has the overall responsibility for the successful delivery of the project. They oversee the strategic management to the Deliberate Self-Harm Registry Project and provide expertise on the direction and implementation of the project.

The Group are responsible for monitoring the progress and ensuring adherence to the project plan. Any deviations from the plan must be authorised by the

Group. They will oversee the budget and make recommendations where appropriate and receive regular updates from the Project Team and the Data Information Officer.

They will also ensure effective communication and dissemination of project material to all stakeholders and will recommend action for roll out of the Deliberate Self-Harm Registry throughout Northern Ireland after evaluation of the project.

Self Harm Registry Pilot Project Management Structure

Project Team

The Project Team are accountable for the delivery of the project. They will provide operational management to the DSH Registry project and support the Data Information Officer. It will be their responsibility to provide local decision-making on issues relating to the project.



Standing L-R: Dr Denise O'Hagan, Peter Moran, John Havord, Dr Sophie Graber.
Sitting L-R: Edel O'Doherty, Amanda O'Carroll

Edel O'Doherty - CAWT



Edel is the Project Executive is also a member of the Project Steering Group. Edel will be the main contact for the Data Registration Officer.

Amanda O'Carroll - CAWT



Amanda is the Data Registration Officer and will oversee the daily operations of the project and will be responsible for gathering and collating Registry data. Amanda will also be responsible for examining the data to exclude those presentations that do not meet the Registry's inclusion criteria.

How you can help us

Clinicians can help by putting Deliberate Self Harm (or DSH) on the diagnosis sheet therefore clerical staff can choose the Deliberate Self Harm category when entering the details on the A&E computer system.

For further information about the Self Harm Project contact: -
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