Webinar title: Embedding ‘Personal and Public Involvement’ in integrated mental healthcare: From policy commitment to practice

Coproducing Clinical Guidelines for Cognitive Screening in Early Intervention Psychosis Services

An Example of Effective PPI

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Overview of context

- **Cognitive challenges** are prevalent in those living with psychosis (**80%** will have some have some form of challenge - Palmer et al 1997, Keefe & Fenton 2007, Reichenberg et al 2009)
- Cognition is predictive of later **social and occupational functioning** (Cowman et al, 2021)
- **Cognitive remediation** is effective and can improve functioning (Wykes et al, 2011)
- Despite the prevalence and significance, cognition is **not routinely screened for**, assessed or remediated in EIP services in Ireland
- **Clinical guidelines** have been coproduced by an interdisciplinary team of experts and those with psychosis lived experience to standardise screening for cognitive challenges in EIP services

Process:

- Steering group of 9 experts & LEX
- Literature review completed
- Use of AGREE II & GRADE tool
- Stakeholder engagement with EIP

Result:

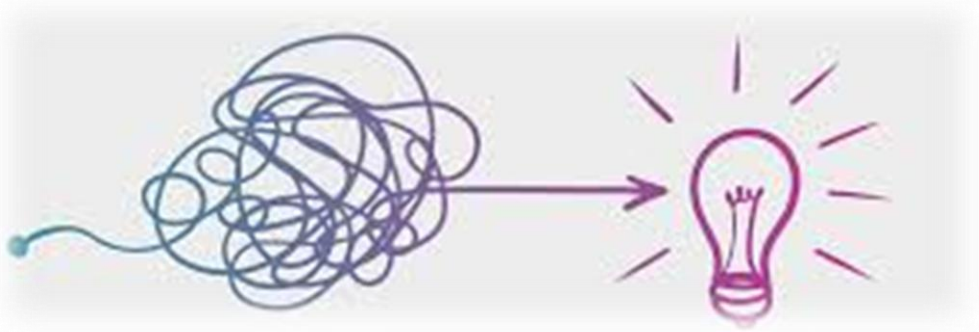
- 4 Recommendations:
  - What cognitive Constructs to assess
  - Which screening measures to use
  - Which assessment measures to use
  - Which clinicians and when to screen/assess

How PPI was embedded

- 2 of 9 experts had lived experience (1 with background in the field, 1 without)
- No pressure: free to withdraw either temporarily or permanently
- Treated as equal partners in the process
- Free to attend every session
- Ample opportunities given to speak in meetings
- Carried out the AGREE & GRADE process – same as other experts
- Cc'd on every email chain and kept informed
- Access to every draft of the manuscript to critique
- Invited to present to EIP clinicians alongside the chair
- Attendance at meeting with international panel of experts in SIRS Florence (Schizophrenia Conference)
- Hourly payment offered for work completed
- Chance to provide feedback for the PPI process

Resulting changes/impact on health services or policy

- Resulting paper to be published soon
- Team recently met with the Department of health
- EIP National Lead is member of steering group
- Actively engaging with EIP frontline clinicians
- Engaging with international experts for wider applicability



Barriers encountered and *how* they were navigated

➢ **Barriers:**

- Technical language, domain-specific knowledge, difficult psychometric concepts
- Requirement to rate and critique specific cognitive measurement tools

➢ **Navigating the barriers:**

- Low pressure environment
- Meeting Materials sent ahead of time
- Concepts were explained fully throughout
- No expectation to master the content itself - Lived expertise incorporated in other ways:
  - Recovery narratives seen as equally valid as the technical aspects
  - Experience of service use integrated alongside other implementation insights

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