Verity Chester

I am the Network Manager for RADiANT ([http://radiant.nhs.uk](https://www.researchgate.net/deref/http%3A//radiant.nhs.uk)) a clinical research network in developmental disability. My PhD at University of East Anglia is investigating social information processing profiles among autistic offenders, supervised by Prof Peter Langdon. I coordinate the Clinical Research Group in Forensic Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (CRG-FIDD):

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I am also the Gender and Diversity Editor for Advances in Autism journal.

Abstract

This talk will focus on the current approach to recording, monitoring, and regulating restrictive interventions (RI) involving people with intellectual disabilities with mental health and/or challenging behaviour within in-patient services.

Current efforts to monitor RIs rely almost exclusively on the reported numbers of such incidents. This approach is fundamentally flawed because numbers alone do not assess the quality of a service’s overall RI practice and cannot be used to infer standards of practice or the presence of abuse.

Furthermore, there are problems with the variable use of definitions, the failure to distinguish between various degrees of physical restraint, the impact of outliers, the failure to capture individual patient progress and the absence of meaningful benchmarking.

Service providers and regulators must therefore rely on other methods to evaluate the use of RIs and move from basing their conclusions on just the total number of RIs to one of examining a wider range of quality parameters.

With representative examples, this talk will make recommendations on how RIs should be recorded, monitored, regulated and published.