Biography

Lianne Edwards BA(Hons), Dip HE Mental Health Nursing, Non-Medical Prescriber (NMP), MSc Advanced Practice (AP).

Lianne works as an AP working alongside Nursing and Medical colleagues in a low secure and lock rehabilitation service. Kemple View hospital provides care and treatment for 90 men of adult age sectioned under the Mental Health Act (1983). The hospital is made up of six specialist wards each provide individualised care and treatment for patients, specialisms include sex offender treatment, personality disorder and older adult care. Many of the patients have complex needs including physical health and addiction to illicit / licit substances.

Lianne has an extensive background in substance misuse working in community and forensic settings. She qualified as Mental Health Nurse in 2011, gained a qualification in NMP in 2017 and most recently successfully completed an MSc AP in 2020. Lianne is the first member of staff across the service to complete the MSc qualification. She has worked hard with her manger to successfully develop the role and integrate it into service provision. Prior to the completion of the AP qualification Lianne and her colleague were the first Nurses in the hospital to complete the NMP qualification. Priory Healthcare have included both roles in their *‘Group Nursing Strategy 2020-2022’*. Lianne feels this is very exciting opportunity for her peers and one that supports the continued development and evolution of the service.

Lianne is passionate about offering the highest quality, evidence-based patient care that supports patients to live their best lives. Recovery is at the heart of Liannes’ work her extended roles have been essential to service developments to achieve this. The implementation of the NMP and AP roles in the service have offered a much needed reference point for patients and staff. Lianne reflects that the roles offer improved access to assessment, diagnosis and treatment to the patient group and supports to expedite the referral process for those who need more specialised care.

Abstract

**Non-Medical Prescribing (NMP) in Mental Health: Current Developments**

Mental health Nurses (MHN) were granted full independent prescribing rights in 2006, the change in legislation was supported by a wider agenda to provide high-quality care to patients when and where they need it, within a limited financial resource. This pivotal change enhanced the profile of MHNs, offering them the opportunity to have a key role in introducing NMP and developing new and innovative ways of working across number of different settings including substance misuse and mental health to support the growing numbers of patients.

This presentation will offer a brief history of non-medical prescribing in mental health (MH) and highlight current practice and the potential barriers NMP MHNs face in the delivery of service. We will explore ways in which challenges may be overcome to ensure that the role of NMP MHN remains efficient, innovative and achievable. Lianne will offer case examples from her own practice to support discussion. Her presentation also include feedback on its benefits from her peers and patients on the service she offers.

A full reference list will be made available with Lianne’s presentation.