

ABI NMCN

Acquired Brain Injury – National Managed Clinical Network

Newsletter No. 4

Welcome to the fourth MCN newsletter

This newsletter will update you on the -

- New ABI NMCN website
- First ABI NMCN conference held in May 2008
- Progress of the 4 working groups
- Steering Group membership and meetings

Chris Flannery July 2008

New website!!!

<http://www.sabin.scot.nhs.uk/>

At last - we have a website!!

Content is still being added and the site will continue to grow as you give us feedback and additional material. On the site you will find descriptions of the work-in-progress of the NMCN and links to resources, such as information for patients & families, education for professionals and links to local services.

The section on web-based patient information should help you find relevant information fairly quickly but it would be helpful to have recommendations of other sites.

Patient information - leaflets

We are in the process of adding 33 leaflets that were developed by the Scottish Brain Injury Rehabilitation Unit at Astley Ainslie to the site. The Robert Fergusson Unit at the Royal Edinburgh Hospital will also be sharing their leaflets once they have been revised.

We will also be contacting people in order to further develop the section on local services.

If you have information that you think would be useful or are willing to share material your service has developed please can you contact Jeannie Angelosanto.

Mapping services in Scotland

We have been mapping the journey for adults (16-65) with traumatic brain injury in Scotland. All 14 health boards have been visited and 96 out of 100 interviews have been completed. A report describing the pathways and identifying issues related to these pathways will be published in the next few weeks and will be available through our website or a hard copy can be requested.

Standards

Over the last 10 months the working-group has been concentrating on clinical standards for adults with traumatic brain injury. After reviewing existing published standards, guidelines and evidence the group developed a framework for the standards based on the patient pathway. The proposals have been discussed widely with Headway, service users and carers and at the NMCN conference in May 2008.

Feedback from those groups is being used to prepare a last draft version of the standards to go out for formal consultation for a 3 month period from August.

The aim is to have the final version of the standards ready for January 2009. The target thereafter will be to widen the range of ABI conditions and age groups covered.

Patient & Family Information Group

Next meeting: 6th August 2008

This group has completed most of its objectives and will be reviewing its work programme at the next meeting.

So far it has looked at what patients & families wanted, what was available and standards for written information. A report of that work can be found on the ABI website or just click on this link - [patient information group report](#)

In addition, the group, with the help of other people across Scotland, reviewed existing websites to find useful information for patients & families.

The result of that work helped us develop the **information for patients & families** section of the website

Education Group

Next meeting: 1st August 2008

This group is working to identify the knowledge & skills required by staff working with people with traumatic brain injury. It is taking a similar approach to that of NHS Education Scotland and Chest, Heart & Stroke Scotland when they developed jointly stroke competencies - (see [stroke competencies](#)).

We do not have funding to develop a project on the scale of the stroke one but will use similar principles.

Once developed, the competencies will need to be tested and we will be looking for volunteers.

Steering Group

Next meeting October 2008

The Steering Group met in April and again in June - when it reviewed the feedback from the conference.

Membership of the Steering Group has changed slightly. New members include:

- Dr Dallas Brodie, representing the Royal college of Psychiatrists
- Wendy Jack, Planning Officer West Dunbartonshire Council who is taking over as the ADSW representative from Kitty Mason
- Helen Moran who is taking over as Patient representative from Ken Rutherford.
- Phil Mackie, Specialist in Public Health Medicine has resigned from the group to take up a new role with the Scottish Public Health Network ([ScotPHN](#))

Minutes of the Steering Group and a list of members can be found on the [website](#)

Conference

The NMCN held its first conference in May in Glasgow. A wide range of people were invited including clinicians, managers and planners from the NHS, colleagues from local authorities, voluntary organisations, the private sector and patient & carer representatives.

Sir Graham Teasdale, Chairman of NHS Quality Improvement Scotland, was the guest speaker

The focus of the conference was to review the first year's progress, to consider proposed standards and to discuss the future direction of the NMCN.

There was enthusiastic participation in the workshops and the overall feedback was very positive.

More information about the day can be found on our website

North Lanarkshire Council are aiming to improve their services for people with acquired brain injury.

This new service, which is a partnership with Capability, is specifically aimed at people with an acquired brain injury and will:

- promote a positive and proactive partnership approach to multi-agency working;
- identify and maximise the existing service provision across different agencies and organisations
- identify gaps in processes and resources and make recommendations to address these.

The post of co-ordinator of acquired brain injury services in North Lanarkshire was filled by Kevin Smith in December 2007. Kevin Smith can be contacted at -

Alexander Anderson Centre
18 East Thornlie Street
Wishaw ML2 8BB

T: 01698 372003
M: 07984102484

Acquired Brain Injury Service in North Lanarkshire

Headway Conference

Looking to the future of acquired brain injury in Scotland - what lies ahead?
Perth Concert & Conference Hall on September 12th 2008

Enquiries - 0131 537 9481

Child Brain Injury Trust

The new CBIT film, *As Easy as ABI*, was launched in Glasgow in April. The film will be used to raise awareness of ABI from the perspectives of the young people. More information on the film and how to order it can be found on the CBIT website.

[http://www.cbituk.org/CBIT in Your Area/Scotland/News_Scot.htm](http://www.cbituk.org/CBIT_in_Your_Area/Scotland/News_Scot.htm)

National MCN for Neurosurgery

This NMCN, which is managed by Fiona Maxwell, has a [new website address](http://www.neurosurgery.nhsscotland.com)
www.neurosurgery.nhsscotland.com

They are currently developing standards for neurosurgery and further information can be found on their website.

NETWORKS

National MCN for Neuro-oncology

The Scottish Adult Neuro-oncology Network (SANON) was set up in November 2006.

Dr Robin Grant, Neurologist at the Western General in Edinburgh is the clinical lead and Karen Klein-Woolthuis is the network manager. They are in process of developing a website <http://www.neurooncology.scot.nhs.uk/>

Contact us

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