

SCAAND

Service for Complex Autism and Associated
Neurodevelopmental Disorders

South London and Maudsley

NHS Foundation Trust



What is SCAAND?

- A specialist service for children and young people with autism spectrum disorders and complex presentations
- Commissioned by NHS England - contracting and funding is met centrally rather than by local commissioning groups.
- A multidisciplinary specialist service to assess and / or manage children and young people with suspected or known ASD with complex presentations

Make up of SCAAND

Comprised of 3 streams

streams

Learning
disabilities
stream (LDT)

Autism and
related
disorders
stream (ARD)

Neuropsychiatry
/ Challenging
behaviour

Professionals

Work across the 3 streams

- Psychiatrists
- Clinical Psychologists
- Behaviour therapist
- CAMHS Nurse
- Occupational therapist
- Speech and Language Therapist
- Consultant Teacher

Referrals

Referral criteria:

- * Below 18 years of age
- * Known or suspected ASD
- * Evaluated by local CAMHS/paediatrics – and considered to need an expert service for ASD or associated neurodevelopmental/mental health problems
- * Need to have been through a local autism pathway

Referrals from:

1. Local CAMHS service
2. Paediatricians (with support of local CAMHS)
3. GP (with involvement of local CAMHS/Paediatricians)

Local team need to remain involved and support referral

Assessment process:

Child/young person and their parents/carers are invited to the clinic for an assessment.

Parents/carers – meet with clinicians from the team

- Autism assessment
- Assessment for presence of co-occurring mental / neurodevelopmental and medical disorders

Child / young person – meet with clinicians from the team

- Assessment of skills and abilities
- Level of adaptive function
- Communication abilities
- Mental state examination
- Clinical interview
- ASD assessment

Any further assessment including observations, school visits, behavioural assessment, risk assessment

Formulation, care plan and recommendations

Treatment

- **Psychoeducation for autism and co-occurring disorders**
- **Behaviour therapy**
- **Cognitive behaviour therapy**
- **Group therapy**
- **Psychopharmacology**
- **Consultation and liaison with local services and schools**
- **Educational recommendations**

Example referral:

Assessment:

- **Meet with child and family at the clinic. Previous reports already obtained with parental consent**
- **Mental state examination**
- **Cognitive assessment with child to understand his levels of function**
- **ADOS with child**
- **Developmental interview with parents**
- **Observation of child at school and conversation with school staff**

Example referral:

Recommendations and treatment plan:

- **Cognitive assessment suggests more severe learning disability than previously understood – meeting with family and staff to understand this (and think about contribution of this to behavioural outbursts)**
- **Autistic traits - advice regarding strategies to support with this (e.g. difficulty with transition)**
- **Possible modified CBT for child to focus on emotional regulation / anger management**
- **Behavioural work with family**
- **On-going assessment of other cause of outbursts e.g. epilepsy/psychosis**
- **Medication review**

Outcomes

- CGAS
- Parent / child satisfaction surveys
- Treatment outcome measures

Any Questions?



Contact details for referrals

National and Specialist CAMHS

Service for complex autism and associated neurodevelopmental disorders

Michael Rutter Centre for Children and Young People

Maudsley Hospital

De Crespigny Park

London

SE5 8AZ

020 3228 2535

Referrals can be addressed to:

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