

Implementing a health check for people with learning disability

Dr Umesh Chauhan

What am I going to talk about today?

- What do we know about the care provided?
- What are the benefit of health checks and what do we know so far?



» People with learning disability are just as likely to see their GP but this do not meet the needs of people with learning disability

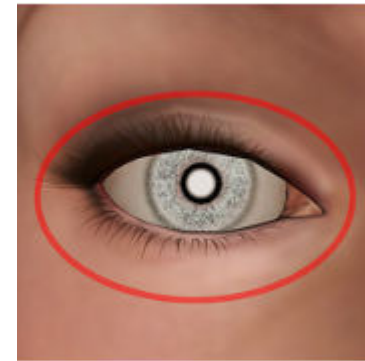
Health checks help to find unknown illness



» Hearing problems

» Eye problems

» More likely to carry out routine screening



– Cervical smears and mammograms

Quality Outcome Framework (QOF)

- Introduced in 2004
- Indicator for learning disability introduced in 2006:

The practice can produce a register of patients aged 18 and over with learning disabilities.

- Annual health checks for people with learning disabilities were introduced in 2008 as part of a Directed Enhanced Service (DES).

Annual Health Check Uptake in England

	2008/9	2009/10
Number of people eligible to receive a health check	118,230	129,469
Number of people who received a Health Check	27,011	54,702
Percentage of eligible people who received a Health Check	23%	42%

What do we want to find out?

- What do people think about having a health check?
- What do health professionals think about delivering a health check?
- What difference does a health check make?

Where did we go?

- We asked questions in two places:

» East Lancashire



» Haringey, London

How are health checks working for people with learning disability?

Views of people with learning disability
and carers

What we did

- Explored the lives of 32 people with learning disability
- Talked to 64 people
- Included those
 - Who had a health check
 - Who were not offered a health
 - Who refused to have a health check

	Who took part?		
	With Learning Disability	Family Carers	Support Workers
Men	19	7	0
Women	13	13	12
Total	32	20	12

People with learning disability

		Sex	
		Men	Women
Ethnicity	White British	12	10
	Asian/Asian British	4	2
	Black/ Black British	4	1
Age Range (years)		25 to 69	24 to 70

What did we Find?

- Access (making an appointment with a doctor)
- Communication (talking to doctors and nurses)
- Continuity (knowing your doctor)
- Views on Health Checks

Access (making an appointment)



Communication problems

- » With the practice
- » With doctors and nurses
- » Between doctors



Examples of Reasonable Adjustments



» Some Doctors' Surgeries will phone you to make an appointment for a Health check and call again to remind you.



» Some doctors' surgeries give you an appointment at a time when it suits you.



» Some doctors will come and see you in your home to do a health check

Coordinating care



- » Community Learning Disability Nurses help to make and keep appointments.
- » They also help to explain what doctors are saying.



- » Health Action Plans also help doctors to know more about you.

What did people think about Health Checks?



» Most were happy to have a health check

- Some parts of the health check may not be done as well
 - Hearing check
 - Eye check
 - Health promotion

What are we doing next?

- What do doctors and nurses think about carrying out health checks?
- What do doctors and nurses do during a health check and what do they record?

Thank You

umesh.chauhan@manchester.ac.uk