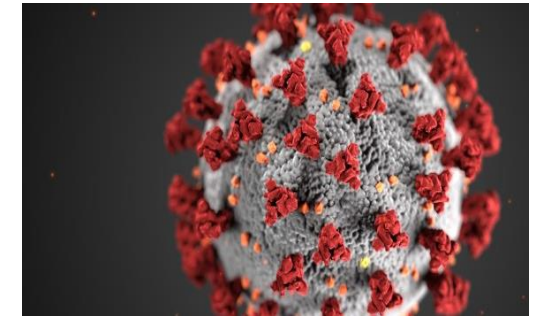


Mental Health Quality Improvement Forum: Learning from COVID-19

October 2020

Jane Cheeseman, Consultant Psychiatrist and Clinical Lead for Quality Improvement, chaired the first of our virtual Quality Improvement forums to share insights into the changes and challenges in mental health during COVID-19. The forum saw a good level of engagement across disciplines and services with attendees posting comments and questions throughout.

An online evaluation of the afternoon is available [here](#) until Friday 30th October.



Andrew Watson, Associate Medical Director for Psychiatry, spoke about the effect of COVID-19 on psychiatric presentations with a focus on the unexpected increase of presentations of first episode psychosis.



Karen Ozden, Chief Nurse and General Manager, shared an overview of a staff survey looking at the use of personal protective equipment in the REB during COVID-19. Karen described points raised by staff including benefits and challenges of using PPE at work, as well as suggestions as to what could encourage effective use.

Brian McAuley, General Manager, described the importance of engaging with staff. He highlighted the benefits of connecting with people in an informal setting, and shared his feedback from these meetings.

#CoffeeWithGM Invitation

...understand what matters to you...
...be accessible and listen...
...love for you to take me up on this offer...



Rob Waller, Consultant Psychiatrist, spoke about using NHS Near Me in mental health. The presentation demonstrated how QI principles have been used during COVID-19 to understand the problem, increase engagement, respond to challenges, and increase use of video consultations.

For more information about these projects, or if you would like to present your own project at a future forum please contact the team at qi.mentalhealth@nhslothian.scot.nhs.uk. The next virtual forum will be held on Wednesday 18th of November 2020 via Microsoft Teams.

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Mental Health Quality Improvement Programme