

Development of a Single Assessment Tool and Associated Processes with a particular focus on Complex Care of Older People

PROJECT TEAM

Professor Brendan McCormack, Institute of Nursing Research.

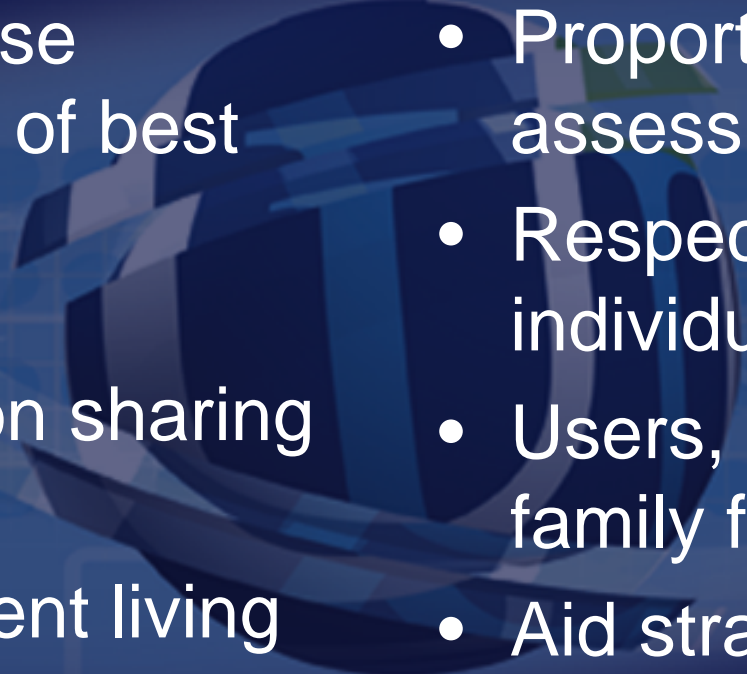
Dr. Brian Taylor, School of Social Work.

Mrs Bridget Murray, Lecturer, School of Rehabilitation Sciences.

Mr. Paul Slater, Research Associate, Institute of Nursing Research.

Project Officer [to be appointed]

Benefits of Single Assessment

- 
- Standardise principles of best practice
 - Facilitate information sharing
 - Promote independent living
 - Avoid repetition
 - Proportionate assessment
 - Respect the individual
 - Users, carer and family focus
 - Aid strategic planning

Project Aims

1. Determine the most appropriate approach for assessing older peoples' health and social care needs.
2. **Develop**, **pilot** and **prepare for implementing** a person-centred, reliable and validated single assessment tool for assessing the complex care needs of older people

Scope of the Project

- Focus on Older People - over 65 years
- Excludes specialist assessment areas such as addiction or mental health
- Includes people with dementia
- Designed to facilitate transferability of approach to other client groups subsequently

Project Groups

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- Project Group
 - Steering Group
 - Stakeholder Group
 - User group
 - Consultative Group
 - Pilot Reference Group
 - Trust and Board Implementation Reference Groups

Steering Group

- Responsible for overseeing the Project
- Approx 20 persons
- Provides channel of communication between DHSSPS and Project Team
- Role is to steer and advise the Project, decide on key issues, consider implementation issues

Pilot Reference Group

- Drawn from Pilot Trusts
- Comprise assessors plus a few managers and appropriate professionals key to the management of the **piloting**
- Discuss piloting issues & support the development of the assessment & care planning model and tool

User Group

- Provide 'lay' input on tools as project develops
- Representatives from advocacy groups (Help the Aged, Age Concern etc) and
- Trust User Groups
- To be facilitated by a voluntary group
- User Group Chair will be part of Stakeholder Group

Stakeholder Group

- Forum for communication with Trusts, Boards, other organisations & professions.
- Contribute to developing SAT
- Appraise implementation issues
- Approx 20 people
- Membership
 - One - each HSS Board
 - One - each HSS Trust
 - Other key stakeholders (chair of User Group, Housing, GP, and other professions not included amongst Board & Trust reps)

Consultative Group

- Includes Stakeholder & User Groups
- Electronic mailing list
- To disseminate information on progress
- To invite comment

Trust and Board Implementation Reference Groups

- Each Trust & Board (or combined)
- Facilitate preparation of staff for Trust implementation of SAT
- Membership drawn across professions and departments
- Composition may change as RPA implemented

Project Timetable 2006

Task	Time plan
Establish Project Groups Establish channels of communications	Jan – Apr
Review existing practice/Literature Select Pilot sites Develop assessment instrument	Jan - Sept
Consensus Conference presenting project findings to HSS staff	11 th Oct

Project Timetable 2006/2007

Task	Time plan
Set up pilot sites Run and evaluate pilot Plan implementation and training process	Oct 2006 – Mar 2007
Report implementation and training Proposals	Mar
Further development of assessment tool	Apr - Aug
Create and deliver training pack and guidance	Sept – Dec 2007

Literature Review

- Review of national and international literature.
- Review of 'grey literature'
- Purpose is to determine the framework for single assessment and tool development
- Stand-alone resource

Pilot Sites

- One in each HSS Board area [subject to RPA]
- At least one community-only HSS Trust
- At least one integrated HSS Trust
- Selected by Steering Group on 15th March.
- Selected by written submissions against pre-determined criteria
- Each pilot Trust asked to nominate assessors and a few other representatives to Pilot Reference Group

Pilot Study

- To test and improve the validity and reliability of the instrument
- To address user issues in the instrument such as length of time taken to complete, presentation and clarity

Assessor Selection

- A Registered Professional
- Willing to participate
- Willing to receive training
- In post for duration of pilot
- Regular assessor of Older People
- Range of professionals across settings – hospital discharge, community

Assessor Training

- Assessors will receive full training in the use of the tool
- Project team will provide training
- Assessors provided with assessment and care planning pack
- Asked to conduct 25 assessments

Client Selection

- Purposive, self-selecting sample selected at key management decision points:
 - Assessment prior to service delivery
 - Post admission-to-service review
 - Six-monthly review

Client Selection

- Managed through lead contact person in Trust (on the Stakeholder Group)
- Representative mix of gender and range of health and social care needs
- 100 Clients (25 per Trust)
- Sample of clients interviewed after assessment

Data Analysis

- Reliability and validity assessed statistically
- Assessors views of usability of instrument gathered using Focus Groups
- Client perspective assessed by interviews with sample of those participating

Ethical Issues

- Ethical approval through OREC (NI)
- Access to staff & clients via Trust Directors & Home owners
- Clients recruited on voluntary basis
- Normally written consent
- Right to withdraw at any stage
- Confidentiality & anonymity assured

Consensus Conference

Wed 11th October 2006

- To include all relevant professional groups and organisations
- Aim (1) to seek ownership of Project
- Aim (2) to support staff & organisations in preparing for implementation
- Objectives are:
 - Inform on progress
 - Seek comment on key issues
 - Outline plans for next stage

Project Outcomes

- Single Assessment Tool for Older People based on process of engaging key players
- Literature Review for publication
- Higher standard of assessment for Older People
- Improved Care Management Planning
- Better statistics & more equitable services
- Pointers for further development of assessment & care planning

**Assessment Processes
and Tools
with a particular focus
on Care Management
for Older People**

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