

**National Patient Safety
Improvement Programmes**



**National
Programmes**

**Expressions of interest are invited for a Mental Health Clinical
Lead for the Innovation Agency**

Approx 1 PA (half day) a month

Contract period August 2021 - June 2022

We are looking for an experienced registered healthcare professional with an interest in reducing restrictive practice in mental health services, to support the delivery of our national Mental Health Safety Improvement Programme (MHSIP) commissioned by NHSE/I.

The initial focus of the MHSIP is to reduce restrictive practice in inpatient mental health and learning disability services. The programme will progress to include reducing suicide and self-harm in inpatient mental health and non-mental health acute settings and improving sexual safety in mental health and learning disability services.

This person will act as a strategic mental health clinical lead and interface between the Innovation Agency and the North West Coast system including the local Health and Social Care Partnerships. We expect the role to provide strong clinical leadership for our mental health programme, which includes meeting national requirements in delivering training to mental health trusts in order to reduce restrictive practice across mental health wards by 50 per cent by March 2024.

By providing a clinical voice, the post holder will enable the best possible standards of healthcare for our population in support of NHS England's Business Plan and the NHS Long Term Plan.

The post holder will be instrumental in the successful delivery of the national MHSIP, as well as actively support the delivery of the Innovation Agency's ambitions to

Delivered by:

North West Coast
Patient Safety Collaborative

*The***AHSN***Network*

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support innovation in services for patients in the region. The key areas of work will include leadership to support the MHSIP, leading pathway redesign and quality improvement and promoting innovation in mental health patient safety work.

Working closely with the North West Coast Networks, Mental Health Patient Safety Networks and the MHSIP National team the successful candidate will be an aspiring clinical leader with the ability to motivate and inspire others to ensure that the ambitions of the MHSIP are delivered. They will have a track record of supporting improvements within the field of mental health for patients and their families. They will be aware of how to address health inequalities, working with key stakeholders in developing effective partnerships and supporting commissioners to transform care, in a complex and challenging climate.

The knowledge, skills and competencies will reflect the importance of this role and it is essential that the applicant has an ability to be credible and to be able to constructively challenge and influence internal and external stakeholders, with an inspirational and collaborative leadership style. They will have strong analytical and decision-making skills with a focus on delivering consistent improvements and innovative solutions, and with patients at the heart of the work.

Restrictive Practice Background

The CQC have raised concerns about the use of restrictive practice in people who use mental health and learning disability services; high numbers of people continue to be restrained and are subject to restrictive practice. Research suggests that there is variation between groups around the rates of restraint i.e. black men have an increased risk of restraint whilst using mental health services.

Despite guidance supporting positive and proactive care designed to avoid these practices, large variation in practice across different units for people with similar needs was observed and reported in the 2017 State of Care review of mental health and learning disability services. In recent months the CQC have raised concerns that the reduced availability of staff to keep people safe may have increased restrictive practice in the context of the Covid-19 pandemic.

For further information

For a discussion about this post, please contact:
Alice Fletcher (Programme Manager: Mental Health Safety Improvement Programme) alice.fletcher@innovationagencynwc.nhs.uk or telephone 07596 889109

How to express interest

To apply please submit an expression of interest with a CV and an accompanying letter, highlighting your suitability to Alice Fletcher:
alice.fletcher@innovationagencynwc.nhs.uk by **Friday 23rd August 2021**.

Role objectives

- Provide clinical support to the MHSIP Programme Manager and assist them in working with the MHSIP national team and NCCMH to review and evaluate the restrictive practice change package to date

- Through the MH Patient Safety Networks, work with organisations to undertake further testing (prototyping) of the restrictive practice change package across a greater number of organisations
- Work with the NCCMH to refine the restrictive practice change package and associated measures
- Scale up and spread the restrictive practice change package across the North West Coast

