

# Standardising the Blood Desensitisation Pathway

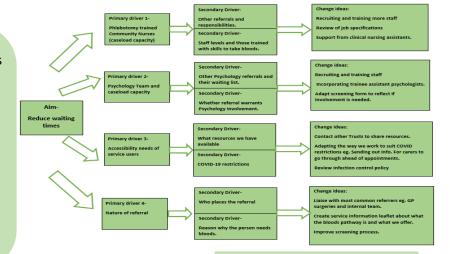
**Rebecca Powell-Wood (Community** Nurse) **Community Learning Disability Team Sheffield Health and Social Care Foundation Trust** 02/11/2020

### Introduction

The Blood Desensitisation Pathway was created in response to LeDeR reports (University of Bristol, 2016).

This concluded that a lack of early diagnosis and access to treatment contributed to the deaths of people with a learning disability.

More recent LeDeR reports (University of Bristol, 2019) show this is still a problem. This highlighted a need to update the pathway to improve outcomes.



## Methodology and Approach

- ✓ Information gathering. This included seeking service user, carer and professional feedback about what works well/ what could be improved in the current pathway. Other information gathering included auditing the waiting list and analysing data such as waiting times and re-referrals.
- ✓ Clinical Psychologist and Nurse discussed ideas to develop pathway. This then further discussed at team meetings. Additional planning and review meetings took place.
- ✓ A driver diagram created to highlight opportunities for change and identify goals. Items included; revised standard operating procedure, new screening form, updated accessible resources and review of waiting list.
- ✓ Carried out several PDSA cycles to implement changes and evaluate the impact. PDSA cycles continued to be reviewed and carried out.
- ✓ Final stage-a continuous review of the pathway and evaluation of changes implemented. Two professionals from different disciplines will meet periodically to assess. Feedback will be sought from varying stakeholders.



### Leadership Learning

- The service improvement project involved working across disciplines (nursing and psychology).
- Staff sickness and redeployment caused issues and delays.
- Feedback from senior staff was also obtained- helpful due to my limited experience in service improvement.
- Due to colleague being off long-term sick in the middle of the project I was then responsible for continuing the project in her absence.
- The project helped to create new/ reinforce existing relationships externally.

## The impact

- ☐ The aims of this project are to reduce health inequalities, improve access to services and prevent avoidable death and ill-health in people with a learning disability.
- ☐ The impact of the changes will be monitored on a monthly basis to ascertain interim feedback.
- ☐ The pathway will be reviewed and audited annually.