Improving the physical health of people with mental illness

Overview
People with a serious mental illness (SMI) are at risk of dying prematurely, in some cases 20 years earlier than the general population.

Many of these deaths are preventable if conditions like high blood pressure, diabetes and cardiovascular problems are identified and treated early.

The Physical Health Review Template guides healthcare professionals through a series of health checks to enable timely diagnosis and treatment to achieve improved physical health and wellbeing.

Results / impacts
- Accessible in around 90% of GP practices through SystmOne and EMIS Web.
- Adopted by over 600 organisations and 120+ Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs).
- Used in primary care, mental health trusts, community health providers and in prisons.
- Implementation of the template has resulted in a 372% increase in checks in one Trust alone.
- Economic evaluation identified implementation of the template across Yorkshire & Humber could save over £1 million a year.
- Supported by NHS Improvement and Health Education England.

The AHSN’s role
Yorkshire & Humber AHSN has supported roll-out of the template regionally and nationally by engaging the national AHSN Network to adopt the initiative.

The AHSN also commissioned an independent economic evaluation of the template and an eLearning module, which is freely available to primary care staff.

Adoption and spread
Yorkshire & Humber AHSN continues to promote the adoption of the template both regionally and nationally.

Additional resources are available on the AHSN’s website including a cost effectiveness report and template and implementation guidance for putting the template onto the RiO electronic patient system.

Find out more
Ruth Wilson
Yorkshire & Humber AHSN
E: ruth.wilson@yhahsn.com

www.yhahsn.org.uk/mental-health