Acute Illness in people with a Learning Disability Study

Aim: This study will identify avoidable and modifiable factors in the care of adult patients with a learning disability who present to hospital acutely unwell.

Data collection

NCEPOD collects data through an initial patient identification spreadsheet, photocopied case note extracts, clinician questionnaires (CQ), organisational questionnaires (OrgQ) and other methods depending on the scope of the study.

January 2025

Local Reporter (LR) Starter pack disseminated

The patient identification spreadsheet is circulated for completion, as well as the reviewer advert.

Deadline: February 2025

February 2025

Selecting case reviewers

Circulating the reviewer advert to relevant individuals who would be interested in becoming a case reviewer for the study.

If there is a case reviewer **selected** from your trust/ Health board, we will notify you as LR

March 2025

Clinician Questionnaire and case note request

For up to 6 patients per site, clinician questionnaires will be uploaded to the online system to be assigned by the LR and completed by the appropriate clinician. We will also be requesting the case notes, and will send you the case note extract list via email

Deadline: April 2025

April - September 2025

Case review meetings

Ensure CQs have been assigned to clinicians.

Whilst the case notes received by NCEPOD are being reviewed, you may be contacted for any additional information the reviewers think is needed to complete their review of the case. We continue to accept questionnaires throughout this stage.

May 2025

Organisational Questionnaire

The organisational questionnaires will be uploaded to the online system to be completed by the LR with input from appropriate clinicians.

Deadline: TBC

Summer 2026

Publication

You will be emailed the newly published report therefore please disseminate it to the relevant teams within the trust/health board.

NCEPOD also compiles a series of quality improvement tools, to be used locally, including a recommendation checklist, an audit toolkit, fishbone diagrams, Failure Modes and Effect Analysis (FMEA), etc.