

Webinar session three: outreach to support people with Severe Mental Illness during winter 2020/21

Friday 12 February 2021

Webinar recording: <https://youtu.be/5nZj-CFJK5c>

Agenda

Webinar session three: outreach to support people with severe mental illness during winter 2020/21

10.00-10.05	Chairs welcome	Andy Bell	Equally Well UK
10.05-10.10	Policy team update focusing on Covid-19 Vaccines	Beth McGeever	NHSE/I
10.10-10.20	Expert by Experience take on the physical health check and Covid-19 Vaccine	Kevin James	Equally Well
10.20-10.25	Outreach and engagement: initial stocktake (Mentimeter with joining details below)	Andy Bell/ All	Equally Well and All
10.25-10.35	Race mental health and physical health – Expert by Experience member	Azar Richardson	Equally Well UK
10.35-10.45	Outreach and engagement for people with SMI the Open Mental Health experience	Catherine Connor, Somerset CCG & Samantha Holmes, Rethink	Somerset & Rethink
10.45-11.15	Breakout sessions: taking stock for outreach programme so far and learning from each other.	Breakout rooms	All
11.15-11.30	Q&A	Andy Bell	

Policy team update focusing on COVID-19 Vaccines

Beth McGeever
NHS England and Improvement

It is vital that we deliver proactive and targeted outreach to people with SMI who may require additional assistance to access their vaccination and we will be including system actions in the next iteration of the community SOP for covid-19 vaccine delivery

Context

- People with SMI have been identified as part of priority group six to access the covid-19 vaccination. We know that people with SMI have low utilisation of primary care services and a tailored outreach approach can support people with SMI to access vital health-care services.
- Insights from Re-think mental illnesses' survey for people with SMI, show that most respondents would access the covid-19 vaccine when it was available. Among those who are uncertain, common factors noted which may make respondents less likely to get the vaccine were: mental health making it difficult to get to a vaccination centre, concerns about side effects and medical risks of the vaccine. It is vital that our approach to supporting people with SMI to access their covid-19 vax focus on addressing these concerns.

There are some proactive steps systems can take to support increased uptake of the covid-19 vaccine in people with SMI



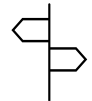
Proactive contact via telephone/in-person visit to those people who may struggle to access vaccine independently



Offer 1-2-1 conversations to address fears and concerns to patients or carers



Offering peer support to attend appointments



Sharing further information about the vaccine to support greater understanding of its benefits



- VCSE partners are already in contact with their local communities and can draw on existing, trusted relationships to deliver these
- The primary care workforce, such as social link prescribing workers may also be well-placed to support outreach and engagement

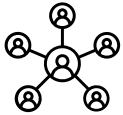
Secondary mental health services can go further to support people with SMI to access their covid-19 vaccination



review caseloads to identify people who may struggle to respond to the GP invitation letter for the vaccine or attend their primary care appointment



ask individuals at appointments whether they have accessed the vaccine yet, and provide them with information and support to make an informed choice



broker support from a VCS partner or primary care social prescribing link worker



offer an appointment to receive the vaccine directly from the mental health service instead (where the NHS MH provider is a vaccinating hub and has supplies to facilitate this).

We are also taking steps in the national team to support maximum uptake of the covid-19 vaccination in people with SMI:

- Co-produced a tailored invitation letter for PCN hubs to utilise to invite people with SMI to their covid-19 vaccination
- Worked alongside third sector partners and Public Health England to co-produce videos to support people with SMI to understand the benefits of the vaccine
- Ensuring there is a mechanism in place to track uptake rates of the vaccine among people with SMI

Breakout session: taking stock for outreach programme so far and learning from each other

1. What have you already put in place for your tailored outreach programme?
2. Have you got any early insights on the benefits of this model?
3. What barriers have you identified and how have you overcome them?

Thank you

For more information email:

Emma.bailey@centreformentalhealth.org.uk