

Professional Competence Scheme

Clinical Audit tips for psychiatrists engaged in Mental Health Commission work

Possible Clinical Audit topics for psychiatrists engaged in Mental Health Tribunal / Section 17 work

- Select a small number for audit e.g. 10 or less
- Audit prospectively e.g. the next 5 tribunals you are engaged in
- Select your 'gold standard' – often can be sourced from the Mental Health Act
- Complete the "Audit Report" form and keep this as your evidence of audit. This will suffice as evidence if you are randomly chosen for "verification process" of your stated CPD credits and confirmation of clinical audit in any given year.
- You do not need to submit this evidence or any details of audits you have carried out unless you are chosen to undergo the "verification process".
- In your online CPD Diary, confirm you have engaged in a Clinical Audit in the relevant PCS year.

⊙ Section 17 reports

- *Quality of your reports*
- *Timeliness of your reports*
- *Have you fulfilled the legislative requirements*
 - ⊙ Review patient files
 - ⊙ Interview patient
 - ⊙ Interview RCP
- Appropriate risk management of patient interview.

⊙ Tribunal members

- Review of S17 report prior to tribunal
- Review of admission documents
- Review anti-psychotic/other meds and side- effects prior to tribunal
- Clarify psychiatric terms/diagnoses for non-medical members of tribunal
- Advise other members on patients treatment, differential diagnosis
- Explore diagnosis with RCP
- Ensure independence from patient before accepting appointment
- Disposal of confidential documentation
- Using medical council registration number when signing documents

SAMPLE Audit Report: Summary for use as evidence for the verification process

Audit Title: Critical review of the S17 report specifically with regard to 1) antipsychotic medication and 2) its side effects in advance of the Mental Health tribunal

Reasons:

1. It is the role of the tribunal members to review relevant documentation
2. As the medical member of the panel one has the responsibility to educate the other members
3. It is important to familiarise oneself with the patient's treatment in order to be able to ask questions of the RCP
4. May be helpful in assessing the patient's compliance during the tribunal hearing

Standards used: The Mental Health Act, Sections 17, 48 and 49. BNF

Audit Findings: 20 Section 17 reports were reviewed

In 13/20 (65%) antipsychotic medication was reviewed

In 6/20 (45%) side effects were considered

Learning outcome and changes made: It is important to know what medications the patient is on and also the side effects associated with them, in order that you can inform the other non-medical tribunal members.

Suggested change: carry BNF/ MIMS, typed reports, allow sufficient time to read report prior to tribunal, iphone app

New audit target: Improve to 100% (re-audit next year)

How will your audit improve patient care: 1. I will have a better understanding of what I'm observing, in terms of the patient, during the tribunal process 2. I will be better able to inform the other tribunal members.

Consultant name: Dr X

Year of Audit: 2012

**Clinical (Practice) Audit Report:
Summary for use as evidence for the Verification Process.**

Name: _____ **Date:** _____

Audit Title:

Reason for choice of audit:

Standards used:

Audit findings:

Learning outcome and changes made:

New Audit target:

How your outcome will improve patient care:

Year Audit carried out: