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Learning Disability Nurses

1. Adult Services

1 Can you please provide the role descriptions, associated numbers of LD nurses and specific environments in which they are working? (Schools, home, GPs, acute hospitals, assessment & treatment etc)

We currently have 21 Learning Disability Nurses in the community working 9-5 Monday to Friday working from four geographical teams as follows:

- 3 band 6 Nurses based in South community Team
- 3 band 6 Nurses in North community Team
- 3 band 6 Nurses in East community Team
- 3 band 6 Nurses in West community Team
- 1 band 6 Nurse between south and North team areas
- 2 Health facilitators band 7 based in South Belfast but covering the entire Trust area - currently in process of being recruited due to staff retirement bank staff cover at present
- 2 band 7 Specialist complex healthcare needs Nurses, complete Training for statutory staff services within Learning Disability programme
- 4 Behaviour Nurses based in East Belfast under the psychology team
- Muckamore Abbey Hospital (MAH) registered nurses - 24.14 WTE (including staff on annual leave, study leave, sick leave and maternity leave). In addition 6.0 WTE RNLD's working in other roles (Assistant Service Manager, resettlement team, Nurse Development out of hour's team and Day services on site.

2 Do you have any specialist LD nurses for example in autism, complex physical health needs, etc?

We have two specialist Nurses band 7 working with individual's with complex health care needs

3 How many learning disability nurses are working in your Trust in Adult LD Services?

We have 21 Learning Disability Nurse that currently work in Adult LD services within the community

4 Can you please provide the role descriptions, associated numbers of LD nurses and specific environments in which they are working? (Management, day centres, community/family home, care management, statutory residential settings (including supported living), GPs, acute hospitals, assessment & treatment etc).

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The role of the Learning Disability Nurse works within the community family home and statutory services to provide a person centred Nursing they assess, plan, implement and evaluate the needs of the individual .This promotes the service user to a safe and rightful inclusion in their local community ,offers support to their families and carers. The community Nurse will carry out all clinical procedures as delegated as an assessed need. All Nurses work as part of the multidisciplinary Team and other stakeholders to ensure growth independence, Health and wellbeing and protection of people with Learning Disability.

The role descriptions for Learning Disability inpatients nurses is as follows:

1 LD nurse in the resettlement team supporting patients with their resettlement in the community.

1 Band 7 behavioural practitioner, 3 Band 6 who bank 2 sessions per week and 1 full time agency behavioural assistant.

Roles of the Behavioural Practitioner is to support the implementation of the Positive Behaviour Support Model, which is the framework for Best Practice in managing Behaviours of Concern, adopted by Belfast Trust. It is endorsed by local and National Policy. The Behavioural Practitioner is a member of the MDT who provides a functional behavioural assessment of patient's behaviours of concern and from this devise an individualised positive behaviour support (PBS) plan that incorporates primary and secondary strategies. Act as an advisor to the MDT and ward staff in prompting PBS friendly environments. Support MDT in reviewing restrictive practices and creating reduction plans. Deliver introductory PBS training to hospital staff. Attend and participate in governance, restrictive practice and safeguarding forum within the service. Work with families of patients. Establish close working relationships with community behavioural teams to ensure a smooth transition for our patients to their identified placements.

3 Ward Manager, which includes 1 banking staff member. Ward managers assess, plan, evaluate and manage the day-to-day running of the wards and teams.

24 clinical nurses, who assess, plan, implement and evaluate the needs of the individuals.

2 RNLD Nurse Development leads, who support the nursing staff with on-going learning & development on the MAH site.

5 Do you have a breakdown of your learning disability nurses within the following categories?

Registered nurses.

21 registered Nurses with in Adult community LD Services

Clinical Nurse Specialist. Response: 2 Complex Health Nurses

As a registered advanced nurse practitioner. Response: NIL

Muckamore Abbey Hospital (MAH) registered nurses - 24.14 WTE (including staff on annual leave, study leave, sick leave and maternity leave). In addition 6.0 WTE

RNLD's working in other roles (Assistant Service Manager, resettlement team, Nurse Development out of hour's team and Day services on site.

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6 How many learning disability nurses are needed in your Assessment & Treatment Units that are presently being covered by Mental Health and/or agency staff?

The Trust sought clarification in relation to this question and received the following from the requestor.

“If you could, based on the number of patients presently in Muckamore, give the number of learning disability nurses that are required to deliver the care required that would be a baseline.

At present, how many learning disability nurses are presently working there and how many other types of nurses there (specify their expertise and how many are agency)?”

There are 38 people being cared for in Muckamore Abbey Hospital. The majority of people (more than 30) who are cared for in Muckamore Abbey Hospital are delayed in their discharge to the community. If they were living in the community, social care staff in the main would meet their care needs. However, Muckamore Abbey is registered as a hospital and registered nurses and senior nurse assistants staff the wards.

The current registrant workforce requirement is 52.08 wte and the current senior nurse assistant requirement is 132.35wte.

There are 23.13wte Registered Learning Disability Nurses employed by Muckamore Abbey and there are 81.18 wte senior nurse assistants employed by Muckamore Abbey Hospital (inclusive of sick leave and maternity leave).

We have a number of RNLDs (less than 5) and senior nurse assistants who work solely through the nurse bank.

We also employ agency staff via the nurse bank and employ up to 60 wte agency registrant nurses and 45wte senior nurse assistants. A number of the registrants are RNLD (less than 10); the remainder are Registered Mental health nurses.

7 Where do you see gaps in your present learning disability service where LD nurses are needed?

The following areas: Epilepsy Nurse, Liaison Nurse within Acute services these are currently being explored. Advanced Nurse Practitioners within Dementia, Diabetes, Palliative, Assessment & Treatment and Community services.

8 What are the specialist services that are needed and what is the magnitude of need for these services?

As specified above people with a Learning Disability are living longer therefore requiring support for older people with a Learning Disability

9 What input do LD nurses have in personal assessments and care plans for service users?

All registered Nurses within the community and inpatients have full input in personal assessments and care plans. They are responsible for the assessment, planning,

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implementation and evaluation of nursing care as per their code of conduct of the NMC

10 What is the referral process for families to access a LD nurse for their learning disabled person?

The referral process can be made within the community via any professional or family member to the appropriate team via phone, Paris system duty desk for professionals. The details are obtained and the case is then allocated via the Team leader to the Nurse for completion of a Nursing assessment. This will ascertain assessed need of the service user where a care pathway is developed including any onward referrals.

2. CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES

A How many learning disability nurses are working in your Trust with children with learning disabilities?

Children with Disabilities currently have 3 wte Children's Community Nurses for Learning Disability working with a 0.8 wte vacancy currently going through HR processes for recruitment. Iveagh Children's Hospital have 24 registered nurses including 1 specialist nurse.

B Can you please provide the role descriptions, associated numbers of LD nurses and specific environments in which they are working? (Schools, home, GPs, acute hospitals, assessment & treatment etc)

3 Community Nurse Learning Disabilities nurses in Children with Disabilities specialise in sleep management, continence promotion, low level behaviour management, medication monitoring, social skills training, adolescence and puberty, mental health awareness as a co-morbidity for learning disability. They work in children's homes and link with schools and voluntary agencies to provide support to children and families with children who have a diagnosed Learning Disability. The work closely with the CWD SW service who refer children to the nurses for support either through consultation, workshops or for a specialist nursing assessment.

Iveagh Children's Hospital have 24 registered LD nurses working within Iveagh. Iveagh Centre provides regional step 5 hospital assessment and treatment service for children and young people with a learning disability. Of the 24 nurses; 1 is employed as Assistant service Manager; 1 is Ward sister and 1 is a Specialist LD Nurse employed in a Behavioural Nurse role. 4 are currently employed as Deputy Ward Sister.

C Do you have any specialist LD nurses for example in autism, complex physical health needs, etc?

Response: No, not within Children with Disabilities service, they specialise in Learning Disability

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D Do you have any specialist LD nurses for example in autism, complex physical health needs, etc?

1 specialist LD nurse.
2 nurse trained as Positive Behaviour Support Coaches
2 nurse trained as Sleep Scotland practitioners
4 nurses trained as Safety Interventions (MAPA) instructors
1 nurse completing nurse and midwifery prescribing and health assessment training.

E How many learning disability nurses are working in your Trust in Adult LD Services?

This question relates to Adults Learning Disability services. Please see the response in Q5 above.

F How many learning disability nurses are needed in your Assessment & Treatment Units that are presently being covered by Mental Health and/or agency staff?

No staff including agency staff currently in children's assessment & treatment services.

G Where do you see gaps in your present learning disability service where LD nurses are needed?

Significant gaps in community assessment & treatment services at step 3 and step 4, crisis assessment and intervention.

H What are the specialist services that are needed and what is the magnitude of need for these services?

Acute Liaison LD nurse for children and young people with LD
Transition coordinator for children and young people.
PICU for children and young people with LD
Low / Medium Secure hospital provision for Children and Young people with LD

I Do you have a breakdown of your learning disability nurses within the following categories?

Registered nurse. Response: 3 wte Community Nurse Learning Disabilities and 24 registered nurses including 1 specialist nurse in Iveagh Children's Hospital.
Clinical Nurse Specialists. Response: 1
As a registered advanced nurse practitioner. Response: 0

J What are the specialist services that are needed and what is the magnitude of need for these services?

In Children's Disability, service additional resource is required for medication monitoring and resultant family support, this has been a gap in the service. 1 B7 and 1 B5 required. There is also an increasing need for responsive support to families

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struggling with behaviour management, sleep and continence and to move one with this one additional b6 is required.

K What input do LD nurses have in personal assessments and care plans for service users?

Community Nurse Learning Disabilities nurses complete nursing care plans for all children referred for specialist nursing assessment they also provide advice to SW in completion of their assessments if requested.

L What is the referral process for families to access a LD nurse for their learning disabled person?

Children must have a diagnosed Learning Disability and be referred for appropriate nursing.