

Single Assessment Process



Devon, Plymouth and Torbay Single Assessment Process

NEWSLETTER

June 2004



SAP Milestone!

A key milestone in the National Service Framework for Older People has been reached. From 1 April 2004, health and social care communities needed to have the systems and processes in place to support the Single Assessment Process (SAP).

Implementation of SAP is intended to ensure a person-centred approach to assessment and care planning for older people, regardless of both organisational boundaries and the health conditions and circumstances of older people. SAP is of critical importance in the modernisation of services for older people, underpinning a wide range of other policy areas including continuing care, intermediate care, and reimbursement. As the majority of users of NHS services are older people, an integrated and effective response to their needs will also support the delivery of other key priorities.

The Devon, Plymouth and Torbay SAP Project encompasses the eight Primary Care Trusts, four Acute Hospital Trusts, three Social Services Departments and the Devon Partnership Trust. In consultation with Practitioners, Users and Carers, the Core Project Team have developed a home-grown tool set for use across Devon, Plymouth and Torbay. The first part of this, the Contact Assessment form, is already in use in acute settings to support Delayed Discharge procedures (Assessment and Discharge Notifications). Following the success of this, four Local Teams have been established to facilitate further implementations of the SAP.



Local Implementation - *where are we now?*

The Four Local Implementation Teams (LITs) have been established around the acute hospitals in Devon, Plymouth and Torbay. Each team consists of members from PCTs, Social Services, the acute trusts and the Devon Partnership Trust, as well as IT specialists, Learning and Development Leads and User/Carer representatives.

Most areas have now identified Early Implementation Sites where the SAP and its paperwork will be tested before a wider scale roll out.

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SAP Toolkit!

Following feedback from staff, the SAP Contact Assessment form has been updated and reissued

This month has also seen the release of the first issue of the Overview Assessment for use in the early implementation sites identified by each locality.

This has been designed for completion by health or social care professionals to record a detailed view of the person and their needs **in the context of their whole life**.

A review of this form is scheduled for September.

Guidance for use of the Overview Assessment is also under development, allowing and will be available from early July.



Workshops galore!

The different SAP Workstreams have also been busy this month with workshops taking place to look at issues such as:

- An Interim IT solution for the SAP
- Learning and Development Strategy
- Communications Strategy



If you would like more information on any of these items, or any aspect of the project, please contact Gill Stanway, SAP Project Assistant, email gillian.stanway@exeter-pct.nhs.uk , phone 01392 687142, or visit the SAP Website at www.swdhis.nhs.uk/SAP