

National Clinical Audit and Patient Outcomes Programme Project Summary

National Clinical Audit of Epilepsy 12

Purpose

The purpose of this audit, which is due to start October 1st 2009, is to facilitate local health services to evaluate clinical practice, patient experience and service descriptors in a standardised and meaningful way. Measures will allow service providers to identify priorities for development and benchmark good practice. The evolution of epilepsy networks will be promoted. The audit is being coordinated by the Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health and designed to complement the British Paediatric Neurology Association's quality improvement strategy for childhood epilepsies which include Paediatric Epilepsy Training, Distance Learning Courses and the UK Children's Neurological Research Campaign.

Methodology

The 3 year project will involve a clinical audit to compare delivered care against recommended care using 12 key indicators derived from the NICE and SIGN guidelines. Units will be asked to upload data onto a web based data collection tool hosted by RCPCH. Data will be analysed and fed back in a timely manner. Contextual information about the service and information about the patient's experience using questionnaires will be collected.

Key Quality Indicators

The 12 indicators are in the areas of: appropriate diagnosis, assessment, provision of appropriate investigations, provision of information to children and their families, appropriate referral, appropriate professional involvement.

Data Collection Schedule

Early adopter sites will begin entering data from autumn 2010 with national roll-out soon after.

Is the Audit Process or Outcome focused?

The audit is predominantly process based. The audit will look at misdiagnosis rates and patient experience as achievable outcome measures.

Who is involved in the audit?

The project will be co-ordinated by Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health and will involve all relevant professional bodies including British Paediatric Neurology Association (BPNA) and Epilepsy Action.

Who are the main stakeholders?

The main stakeholders are BPNA, Epilepsy Action and Epilepsy Networks.

Date of the next Annual Report and outline content

A summary of progress to date will be produced at the end of the project's first year (September 2010). This will summarise achievements to date including list of units recruited and data collection schedule.

More information: <http://www.rcpch.ac.uk/Research/CE/Clinical-Audit/National-Epilepsy-Audit>

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