SAFER CARE FOR PATIENTS WITH PERSONALITY DISORDER

The National Confidential Inquiry into Suicide and Homicide by People with Mental Illness



Key Findings

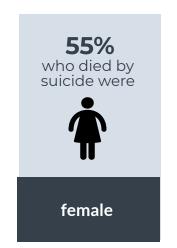


154

patients with personality disorder died by suicide in the UK in 2013

patients with personality disorder were convicted of homicide in the UK between 2010-2013

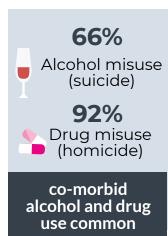
Patient characteristics











Care and treatment

4% Used standardised structured approach for diagnosing PD





Prescribed psychotropic drugs at their last contact with services

75% Did not receive DBT
Patients were not receiving
psychological
treatment consistently



8 patients

Seen by Specialist PD services these services are good but hard to access

Patients admitted to hospital in the year before death or the homicide





65% Last contact followed a crisis

There was no clear pathway for patients with PD to access care





Staff need more training to understand personality disorder

"A lot of this has just been learning on the job."
(Nurse in focus group)

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Key Messages



Patients were not receiving care consistent with NICE guidelines:



Psychological interventions



Short-term prescribing



Avoiding hospital admission



Survey and focus groups with staff and patients suggested these problems may be more widespread





Therefore...

an examination of personality disorder services is needed

Working with patients to understand their traumatic experiences would help reduce stigma





Safer prescribing of psychotropic drugs is needed to avoid fatal overdose

Risk is linked to co-existing drug and alcohol use; dual diagnosis services should be available





Former patients should be involved in staff training, advocacy and peer support