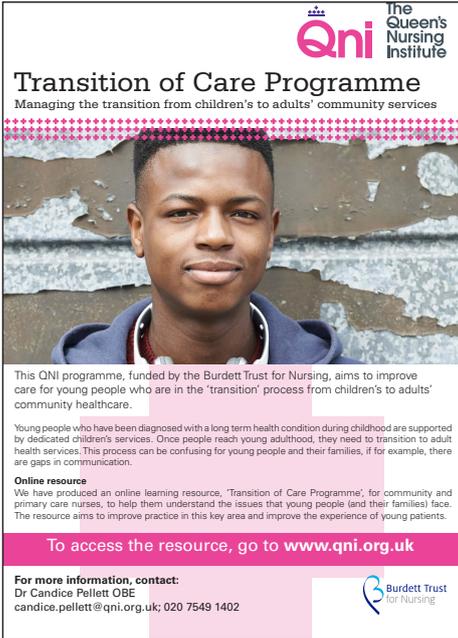


Transition of Care Project Newsletter

Issue 1 - April 2017

Welcome to first issue



Qni The Queen's Nursing Institute

Transition of Care Programme
Managing the transition from children's to adults' community services

This QNI programme, funded by the Burdett Trust for Nursing, aims to improve care for young people who are in the 'transition' process from children's to adults' community healthcare.

Young people who have been diagnosed with a long term health condition during childhood are supported by dedicated children's services. Once people reach young adulthood, they need to transition to adult health services. This process can be confusing for young people and their families, if for example, there are gaps in communication.

Online resource
We have produced an online learning resource, 'Transition of Care Programme', for community and primary care nurses, to help them understand the issues that young people (and their families) face. The resource aims to improve practice in this key area and improve the experience of young patients.

To access the resource, go to www.qni.org.uk

For more information, contact:
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Welcome to our first e- newsletter to update you on our Transition of Care project. Thank you for your interest in the work we have been doing over the past 12 months. Many of you have attended our focus groups, responded to our surveys or have contacted us via wider stakeholder engagements to express an interest in our project.

The QNI is currently undertaking a two year project funded by the Burdett Trust for Nursing, to deliver a comprehensive programme to help community nurses empower young people to transition smoothly between Children's Services and Adult Community Services. Making the transition from a structured and supportive children's environment to adult services can be a bewildering and distressing experience for young people. There is currently a limited focus on the importance of supporting a smooth transition within primary and community care where the majority of care takes place. The project has scoped the needs of primary and community nurses to enable development of supportive resource and learning materials.

The project has developed and is trialling a transition of care learning resource to identify the best approach to supporting young people, with a specific focus on District Nursing, General Practice Nursing and Educators. The project is led by Queen's Nurse Candice Pellett OBE, who has written a blog about the process.

Candice has been supported throughout the first year of the project by a steering group whose members include clinicians, educators and a young person, Hannah Phillips, who has experienced the transition journey from children's services to adult services. Hannah has written a blog about her experience.

The transition project team have just completed a very busy first year. We travelled around the country to



facilitate focus groups that were attended by people from a varied audience, both clinical and managerial and by young people/families/carers and patient representatives. We also analysed responses from online questionnaires – in total we had contact with more than 900 people.

The QNI also carried out a review of academic literature in this area, which is also available on the QNI's website. The literature review confirmed that there is currently a lack of robust research available on transitional care particularly relating to effective practice in primary and community care settings. All the data we collated from the past 12 months from the focus groups, online surveys and wider stakeholder engagements informed the content of our new, online transition learning resource.

Online Learning Resource for Community Nurses



The QNI has launched a new online learning resource to improve nursing care for young people who are in the transition process.

The learning resource can be viewed on the website. It includes a short video recording the views of young people in transition and of practitioners working in the field.

Young people who are born with, or who have been diagnosed with a long term health condition during childhood, are supported by dedicated children's services often delivering an intensive, individualised care management process as well as working with, and supporting, their parent(s) or guardian(s). Once people reach young adulthood, they normally need to transition to adult health services. This process can be stressful and confusing for young people and their families, if for example there are gaps in communication or lack of joined up working. This can lead to gaps in care delivery and adverse health impacts.

The new resource has been developed following an in depth consultation process with nurses, educators, young people and parents. The resource is designed to help nurses understand the issues that young people (and their families) face, improving practice in this key area and the experience of young patients.

We will be working with some specific groups as they embed the learning from the resource in their practice, including District Nurses, General Practice Nurses and Nurse Educators. We will be contacting these groups throughout the coming year to get their feedback on the resource.

In the meantime we'd like to hear from you. We know that there are some excellent Champions of Transition of care working in primary and community care and we'd like to hear from you as to how you support young people in your service, for example, what have you found challenging and what have you found 'works' in your area of health delivery. We would like to make this newsletter a regular feature of the transition project and showcase your work in our next newsletter.

Transition of Care Learning Event

We will be holding a learning event later in the year in London. This all day event will be free to attend and further details will be made available soon.

Call for Poster Presentations

We will be inviting poster entries from delegates to promote their work in this field. This can be for any area of your clinical practice relating to a direct intervention or a new way of working leading to improved outcomes for young people who are going through the transition process. These posters will be showcased at our Transition of Care learning event. Further details to follow.

Please submit ideas and articles by 30th June for inclusion in the summer Newsletter.

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