

Neurological Rehabilitation & Review Team

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Background: The Neurological Rehabilitation & Review Team formed in response to the need for inter-disciplinary working for people with progressive neurological conditions, as recognized in the National Service Framework for Long-Term Conditions (DoH 2005)¹.

Description:

- The team provides specialist neurological rehabilitation advice for adults with **progressive neurological conditions** in the Derby area. The team comprises three Rehabilitation Medicine Consultants, a Rehabilitation Nurse Specialist and a Specialist OT.
- The service provides a flexible combination of clinics, home visits and telephone consultations. Clinic options include consultant general and diagnosis-specific clinics; nurse-led multiple sclerosis clinics, occupational therapy and nurse-led general clinics and multi-disciplinary clinics.
- The team co-ordinates Rehabilitation Communication meetings. These meetings with community health and social care professionals enhance existing services and increase cross disciplinary knowledge. We described our principles in a recent article ².



Rehabilitation Communication Group

From left Rehabilitation Nurse Specialist; Social Services OT; Wheelchair Service OT; OT; Community OT; Community Physiotherapist; Community OT; Social Services Care Manager; Community Speech and Language Therapist; Social Services OT. Consultant not seen.



A multi-Disciplinary Clinic
with Consultant, Nurse,
Patient and Partner

Activity Data: Clinical contacts in the last year included 622 outpatient appointments, 190 home visits, 18 telephone consultations, 11 acute ward advice visits and numerous support and advice calls with both patients and professionals.

Development: The team developed from existing posts without additional funding. The community communication system has evolved over a period of 12 years through inter-professional relationships without additional funding.

Innovation: An innovative aspect of the service is its reliance on existing resources rather than on new funding. Essentially, our community linkages constitute a set of informal alliances between professionals with common purposes. This system has developed 'from the bottom up'.

Implications: This service demonstrates a method of capitalising on existing statutory and voluntary services, without involving an elaborate funding structure.

1. Department of Health. The National Service Framework for Long Term Conditions. 265109 London HMSO

2. Ward CD, Phillips MF, Smith S, Moran M. *Neurology in Practice* J Neurol Neurosurg Psychiatry Suppl 2003; 74: 8iv-12iv).