

of RPMs were prescribed, highlighting the need to standardise prescribing of RPMs post MAAW.

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The Hidden Majority? Exploring the Neurodiversity in CAMHS Eating Disorder Caseloads

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Aims: Emerging research indicates a higher prevalence of Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) and Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) among individuals with eating disorders (EDs) compared with the general population. Understanding this overlap is crucial for service planning, as neurodiversity assessments and tailored interventions require additional clinical resources. This study aimed to quantify the incidence of neurodiversity within a community specialist Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) ED caseload to better predict workload demands and inform clinician training and treatment adaptations.

Methods: A cross-sectional survey was conducted among clinicians in a specialist CAMHS ED service. Clinicians were asked to report the number of patients on their current caseload with a formal diagnosis of ASD and/or ADHD, as well as those identified as requiring further assessment for these conditions. This methodology provided a snapshot of the prevalence of neurodiversity within active caseloads at the time of data collection.

Results: The total caseload was 96 patients. Of these, 22 (23%) had a confirmed diagnosis of ASD and/or ADHD, while 40 (42%) were identified as needing an assessment for neurodevelopmental conditions. In total, 65% of the caseload had either a diagnosis or a suspected diagnosis of ASD, ADHD, or both.

Conclusion: Our findings highlight a substantial overlap between eating disorders and neurodiversity in a community specialist CAMHS setting. The high proportion of young people requiring assessment underscores the need for integrated neurodevelopmental screening within ED services. Additionally, these results emphasize the importance of upskilling clinicians in neurodiversity-informed care and adapting treatment models to meet the needs of this population. Addressing these factors will be essential for optimizing clinical outcomes and resource allocation within specialist ED services.

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Identification and Diagnosis of Foetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) in Children at High Risk of Prenatal Alcohol Exposure: A Service Evaluation

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Aims: Prenatal alcohol exposure (PAE) is a leading preventable cause of neurodevelopmental, mental health, and cognitive difficulties. This study evaluates the identification of Foetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) in a high-risk cohort of adopted and Children In Care (CIC) of the local authority, referred to Symbol Team, a specialist Tier 3 service for Children Looked After (CLA) and Adopted young people within Lewisham Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS).

Methods: Retrospective service evaluation was conducted on 91 children referred to Symbol Team in June 2023, who were assessed for mental health and neurodevelopmental concerns. Children were categorised based on confirmed Prenatal Alcohol Exposure (PAE) and other reported risks, including maternal alcohol misuse, drug misuse, tobacco use, mental health concerns, reduced antenatal care and a family history of substance misuse. Risk factors were identified through various reports including social service records.

Very High Risk (VHR): Confirmed PAE based on parental reports or hair strand tests.

High Risk (HR): Uncertainty regarding PAE but with 5 or more risk factors.

Moderate Risk (MR): Uncertainty regarding PAE with 3–4 reported risk factors.

Results: Of the 91 children referred, 58% (n=53) were categorised as high or moderate risk of PAE. Of these, 16% (n=15) were Very High Risk (VHR), 18% (n=16) were High Risk (HR), and 24% (n=22) were Moderate Risk (MR).

Neurodevelopmental concerns were high across categories, with symptoms related to Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) in 43% (n=39) and Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) in 46% (n=42). In the VHR group ASD 14% (n=13) and ADHD 15% (n=14) concerns overlapped and similarly the HR group exhibited ASD 11% (n=10) and ADHD 12% (n=11).

Cognitive difficulties were reported by 52% (n=47) of children, with 15% (n=14) in VHR, 15% (n=14) in HR, and 21% (n=19) in MR groups. Mental health concerns like depression were seen in 2% (n=2) VHR, 2% (n=2) HR and 3% (n=3) MR groups. A total of 33% (n=30) received medication treatment, with 11% (n=10) VHR, 8% (n=7) HR and 14% (n=13) in MR groups.

Conclusion: Despite the high prevalence of neurodevelopmental concerns and risk factors, FASD identification and diagnosis rates were low. The study also highlights gaps in knowledge, diagnostic tools and clinician training across agencies. Some barriers include under-reporting and stigma associated with the diagnosis. Improved access to reliable records and standardised diagnostic pathways are needed to facilitate early identification of FASD in at-risk children.

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Healthy Minds, Healthy Bodies: Enhancing Physical Health in Serious Mental Illness – BSW (Bath, Swindon and Wiltshire) Physical Health Evaluation

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Aims: The BSW (Bath, Swindon and Wiltshire) Community Physical Health Evaluation aimed to assess the implementation and outcomes of annual physical health checks for individuals with Serious Mental Illness (SMI) within the BSW region. BSW offer an