



Cumbria, Northumberland,  
Tyne and Wear  
NHS Foundation Trust

# Northumberland Older Person's Psychiatric Liaison Team

Personalised patient information



Caring | Discovering | Growing | **Together**

## **What is the Psychiatric Liaison Team?**

The Psychiatric Liaison Team provides assessment of mental health, and treatment of any mental health problems, to people attending a general hospital. Although we are employed by the mental health trust and not the general hospital, we work very closely with the general hospital team.

## **Who are we?**

We are mental health professionals: specialist medical doctors (called 'psychiatrists'), registered mental nurses, clinical psychologists, other specialist mental health professionals, and administrative staff.

We are based at Wansbeck General Hospital and operate Monday – Friday, 9am – 5pm (excluding bank holidays).

The hospitals we cover are:

- Alnwick Infirmary
- Berwick Infirmary
- Blyth Community Hospital
- Haltwhistle War Memorial Hospital
- Hexham General Hospital
- Northumbria Specialist Emergency Care Hospital (NSECH)
- Wansbeck General Hospital

We have been asked to see you by your general hospital team, who remain the team responsible for your overall care.

## **During our involvement you may be asked to:**

- Take part in your assessment, so that we can agree with you what needs you may have and how we might help them be met.
- Give permission to us to speak to others (for example, your family).
- Give permission for us to share information with others concerned with your care.

People who know you well, such as your family, can always speak to us; we will listen to them but will not normally share any information with them about you without your consent.

## Interpreters

If you require an interpreter, please let your referrer know so that one can be arranged for you.

## When you are seen we will always try to do the utmost possible to respect your privacy and dignity

- You can be seen in a private area, if one is available.
- You can choose whether or not a relative, friend or advocate accompanies you.
- We will encourage you to be involved in decisions about any treatment offered.

## You may be offered:

- An appointment to see us again, in the near future.
- Information and a choice of possible interventions by agencies that will be able to support any plan agreed with you.

## After the assessment:

- The plan is written in this leaflet; this may be called a **care plan** when it is in your medical notes.
- Relevant information you gave to the psychiatric liaison staff will be given to the hospital team looking after you.
- You have the right to receive copies of any letters written to your GP.

## How to contact us

### Our postal address is:

Psychiatric Liaison Team  
Wansbeck General Hospital  
Woodhorn Lane  
Ashington, NE63 9JJ

**Our telephone number is:** 01670 529 047

**1. How will I know things are getting worse?**

**2. What can I do myself to take my mind off my problems?**  
(e.g. listen to uplifting music, watching TV, going for a walk,  
reading, colouring in, mindfulness, etc)

**Useful apps and websites**

- Stay Alive
- Headspace
- Clear Fear
- Stayingsafe.net
- [www.cntw.nhs.uk/relaxation](http://www.cntw.nhs.uk/relaxation)

**3. Who can I talk to or spend time with for support?**  
(e.g. friends, family, colleagues, clubs, helplines)

**4. Where can I go if I'm feeling unsafe?** (e.g. family home, shops, cafes, family or friends' homes, Samaritans drop in centre, alcohol, substance support groups)

## 5. Making my environment safe:

## 6. Professionals who I can contact:

- GP \_\_\_\_\_
- Anxiety UK: 03444 775 774, Text 07537 416 905 (Mon-Fri 9.30am – 5.30pm)
- Age UK: 0800 678 1602 (8am-7pm 365 days a year)
- Alzheimer's Society National Dementia Helpline: 0333 150 3456
- CALM: 0800 58 58 58 (5pm-midnight 365 days a year)
- Combat Stress (Veterans): 0800 138 1619 (24hr)
- Crisis Text Line: Text 'SHOUT' to 85258 (24hr)
- MIND: 0300 123 3393, (Mon-Fri, 9am-6pm)
- Samaritans: 116 123 (24hr)
- SANEline: 0300 304 7000 (4.30pm – 10.30pm 365 days a year)
- Silver Line: 0800 470 80 90 (24hr)
- Someone Cares (survivors and supporters of abuse): 0191 257 8094

If you want urgent advice from a mental health professional or it is an emergency, then you can contact your Initial Response /Crisis Team at any time, 24 hours a day every day of the year:

- Northumberland and North Tyneside - tel: **0800 652 2861**
- Deaf service users - text **07887 625 277**

## 7. Helplines and support

### Northumberland

- Carers Northumberland: 01670 320025
- Northumberland County Council (Housing): 0345 600 6400
- Northumberland Recovery Partnership: 01670 798200
- Talking Matters Northumberland: 0300 3030 700
- Social Services: 01670 536 400

### North Tyneside

- Cruse Bereavement: 0191 276 5533
- Housing Advice: 0191 643 2520 (Out of Hours 0191 200 6800)
- North Tyneside Carers' Centre: 0191 643 2298
- North Tyneside Recovery Partnership: 0191 240 8122
- Talking Therapies: 0191 295 2775
- Social Services: 0191 643 2777

## 8. The names of those involved in your assessment are:

**9. Your plan of care which has been agreed upon is:**

## Patient and carer information

There is a range of patient and carer information on the Trust's website – [www.cntw.nhs.uk](http://www.cntw.nhs.uk)

If you don't have internet access you can:

- telephone us on 0191 246 7288. An answerphone service is in operation outside of office hours.
- visit us at St Nicholas Hospital. We are open for anyone to call in on weekdays from 9.30am - 12 noon and 1pm - 4.30pm, no appointment is needed.



### **Self Help Guides – [www.cntw.nhs.uk/selfhelp](http://www.cntw.nhs.uk/selfhelp)**

23 guides written by NHS clinical psychologists with contributions from service users and healthcare staff. Titles cover Depression and Low Mood, Stress, Controlling Anger, Panic, Sleeping Problems, Anxiety...



### **Mental Health Act – [www.cntw.nhs.uk/resource-library](http://www.cntw.nhs.uk/resource-library)**

A series of Mental Health Act information leaflets in 28 languages.



### **Resources Search – [www.cntw.nhs.uk/resource-library](http://www.cntw.nhs.uk/resource-library)**

Search our resources library for self-help guides, patient information, mental health and wellbeing guidance and other literature that you may find useful.



### **Medication – [www.cntw.nhs.uk/resource-library](http://www.cntw.nhs.uk/resource-library)**

A range of patient information leaflets which provide information about medicines, side-effects and how to manage them.

## **Consent and confidentiality**

We will usually only see you if you have given your explicit consent. Similarly, you are free to opt out of seeing us at any time. Anything you say is treated in strictest confidence and will only be shared with other members of the team and with other people involved in your health care, such as your GP.

Members of the team work within professional Codes of Conduct and follow NHS Policies that ensure confidentiality is maintained at all times. The only exception to this would be if the Team believed that there was a significant risk you would seriously harm yourself or others, or information was obtained about possible harm to vulnerable people such as children.

If you have any concerns at all about confidentiality please speak to any member of the team.

## What if I have a comment, suggestion, compliment or complaint about the service?

If you want to make a comment, suggestion, compliment or complaint you can:

- talk to the people directly involved in your care
- ask a member of staff for a feedback form, or complete a form on the Trust website [www.cntw.nhs.uk](http://www.cntw.nhs.uk) (click on the 'Contact Us' tab)
- telephone the Complaints Department Tel: 0191 245 6672
- email [complaints@cntw.nhs.uk](mailto:complaints@cntw.nhs.uk) Please note that information sent to the Trust via email is sent at your own risk
- We are always looking at ways to improve services. Your feedback allows us to monitor the quality of our services and act upon issues that you bring to our attention.

You can provide feedback in the following ways:

- the quickest way for you to do this is to complete our short online survey at [www.cntw.nhs.uk/poy](http://www.cntw.nhs.uk/poy)
- complete a Points of You survey, available from staff.



Further information about the content, reference sources or production of this leaflet can be obtained from the Patient Information Centre. If you would like to tell us what you think about this leaflet please get in touch.

This information can be made available in a range of formats on request (eg Braille, audio, larger print, easy read, BSL or other languages). Please contact the Patient Information Centre  
Tel: 0191 246 7288

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