

Scottish Electroconvulsive Therapy Accreditation Network National Report 2019

A Management Information publication for Scotland

Publication date: 26 November 2019

About this release

This release from Information Services Division summarises data collected from all 18 Electroconvulsive Therapy (ECT) treatment centres in Scotland for 2018. Data are presented in relation to demographics, patient characteristics, consent and legal status, diagnosis, treatment details, clinical outcomes and patient and carer feedback.

Main Points

- The use of ECT in Scotland has remained fairly constant since 2011. In 2018, 352 patients received ECT through 424 episodes of treatment.
- The majority of treatments (58%) involved patients with the capacity to give informed consent to treatment.
- In 9% of episodes, treatment was given for emergency life-saving reasons and in 28% of episodes ECT treatment was expressed as a patient preference.
- The greatest improvement was among patients who were considered "markedly, severely or extremely ill" with 75% of episodes in this group involving patients assessed as either much or very much improved following treatment.

Severity score before treatment by mean improvement score after treatment, 2018

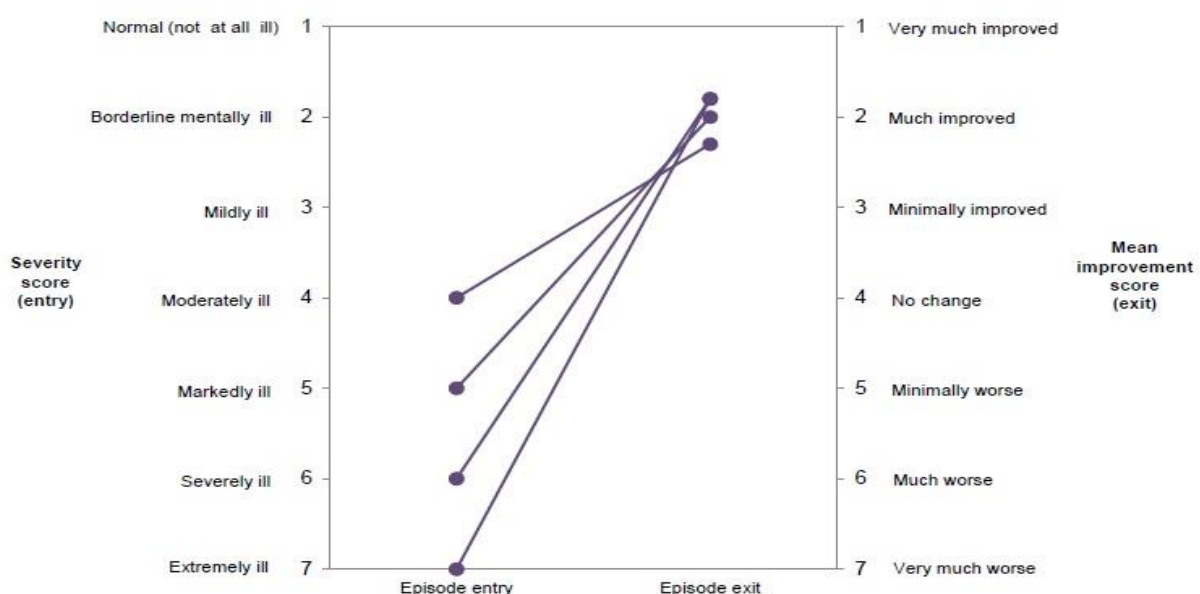


Figure 1 is based on episodes of treatment starting in 2018. The left axis shows how ill people were before treatment, measured on a recognised clinical severity score. The right axis shows the average score of improvement following treatment, measured on a recognised clinical improvement score.

Background

The Scottish Electroconvulsive Therapy Accreditation Network (SEAN) is a national clinical accreditation network. The Steering Group has representation from all clinical disciplines involved with ECT and in addition, has representatives from the Scottish Government and the Mental Welfare Commission for Scotland. There is also a SEAN Reference Group consisting of service users, carers and service users' agencies which provides feedback and advice on care and treatment from the patient and carer's perspective. Accreditation visits are carried out using evidence based standards which align with the Person Centred, Safe, Effective and Equitable ambitions of the NHS Healthcare Quality Strategy.

The annual national report is based on episodes of treatment commencing in 2018. An episode of treatment is a course of ECT treatment. ECT treatment may be delivered on an inpatient or outpatient basis.

Contact

Dr Alistair Hay
SEAN Chairman
01463-253614
alistair.hay@nhs.net

Linda Cullen
SEAN Clinical Co-ordinator
0131-275-6382
linda.cullen2@nhs.net

David Murphy
Senior Information Analyst
0131-275-6624
david.murphy2@nhs.net

Further Information

More detailed information can be found in the annual reports on our [website](#).

The next update of this publication will be in November 2020.

ISD and Official Statistics

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