

MEMORANDUM

To: MRN Clinical Governance Network
MRN Portfolio Managers
MRN Regional Advisory Networks

From: Mary Smith, Lead General Manager Planning and Funding, Lakes DHB
Eseta Nonu-Reid, Regional Director, Midland Regional MH&A Network
Roz Sorensen, Project Consultant

Date: 20 November 2012

Re: **MRN Mental Health Services for Older People Project Report**

First, we would like to take the opportunity to thank you for your participation in this project to date.

This project was commenced in 2011 to support Midland region DHBs in their planning and service development to address the needs of a growing older population. Consistent with the Ministry of Health's Guideline on Mental Health and Addiction of Older people and Dementia (2011), an integrated and coordinated approach was sought to improve access to services, and the quality of services provided.

DHBs provided data on current service provision, consistent with the Seven Tiered Model (Draper, Brodaty & Low, 2006), in response to a devised questionnaire. This data were used to demonstrate the gaps in service provision and areas where needs were being addressed. Further to this, a swap shop day was held with key stakeholders to discuss and debate what was working well and where further development was warranted. This information together with a scan of the literature has been collated in this report.

This information provided a foundation for a set of draft recommendations to be developed for implementation. Key stakeholders were invited to critique them at a further swap shop day.

The recommendations included:

Pathway and Service Model Development

- Develop regional pathways and service models for the service continuum that span primary, secondary and tertiary care, consistent with the Draper, Brodaty & Low's Seven Tiered Model, that are integrated and person and whanau centred, commencing with a regional dementia care pathway.
- Pathway development will aim to provide clarity about what services including diagnostics, and models of care are required to meet the person and their carers' needs from pre-diagnosis to advanced care.
- Attention will be given to the linkages, interfaces and risk management of primary, secondary and tertiary providers working collaboratively to deliver care at the right level in the right place by the right health professional.

- The client group with multiple co-morbidities resulting in a complexity that doesn't fit well with local service provision will be identified and regional options investigated. For example, mental health clients who experience dementia/significant cognitive decline in relation to their mental illness, people under the age of 65 who experience cognitive decline due to neurological disorders, and dementia, and people with intellectual disability who also experience mental illness or dementia.

Workforce

- Support the identification of learning competencies required by staff and people caring for older people accessing services in the Midland region, and recommend training that includes: dementia, delirium, depression, managing complex clients with multiple co-morbidities, elder abuse and neglect, legislation, PPPR Act, and cultural perspectives in ageing.

The final report has gained agreement across the five Midland DHBs and is attached for your reference and implementation.



Mary Smith
Lead GM Planning & Funding