

## P01-11

### THE DEVELOPMENT OF AN ADULT ADHD TRANSITIONAL SERVICE

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**Aim:** To describe the development of a service addressing the needs of adults with ADHD, and to survey the caseload of this service.

**Method:** This review describes the process of setting up a new service for adults with ADHD. This includes drawing up a service plan to look at the resources required, and arranging shared-care agreements with general practitioners. The service was developed in two phases, with the initial phase accepting transitional patients with an established diagnosis of ADHD, and phase two looking at the assessment of individuals without a previous diagnosis. All referrals to the service were surveyed, and information was collated on age, gender, diagnosis, co-morbidity, medication and employment.

**Results:** The service was set up in November 2007, and over a period of 10 months, 32 referrals were accepted, having met the criteria for assessment. Cases were accepted on the basis that they had a previous diagnosis of ADHD, the majority originating from Child and Adolescent services.

The caseload review revealed high levels of comorbidity. The majority of patients were treated with stimulant medication. The ratio of male to females was higher, as expected. The incidence of substance misuse and conduct disorder was consistent with other studies.

**Conclusion:** The demand for a service addressing the needs of adults with ADHD has been high, as evidenced by the volume of referrals received. ADHD persists into adulthood in approximately 50% of children with the diagnosis so follow up into adulthood is crucial.