

Development of a Pathway for Children and Young People with a Prolonged Disorder of Consciousness at The Children's Trust

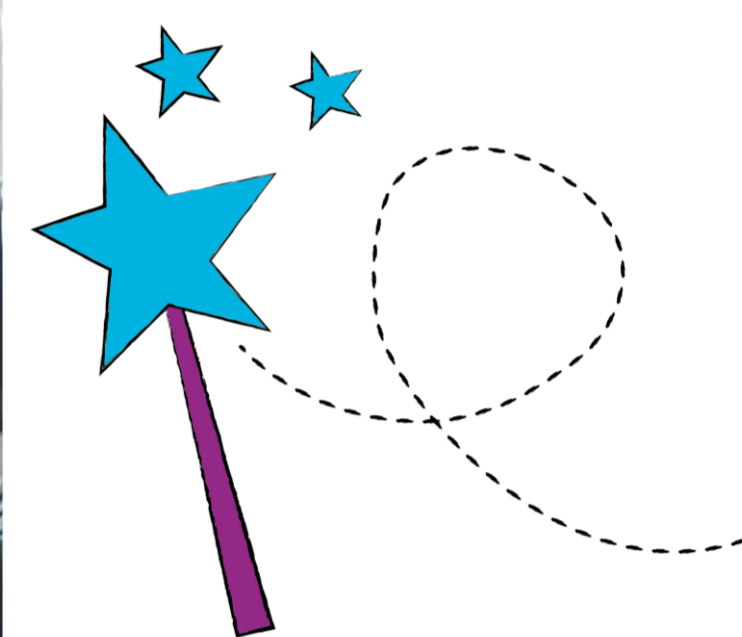
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Background

- Care pathways can be effective in supporting the implementation of evidence-based practice (Currie & Harvey, 2000).
- Royal College of Physicians developed National guidelines for adults with a Prolonged Disorder of Consciousness (RCP, 2013). Nothing similar has been developed for CYP (Pool & Magee, 2016).
- Limited literature around service provision for CYP in disorder of consciousness and their parents.

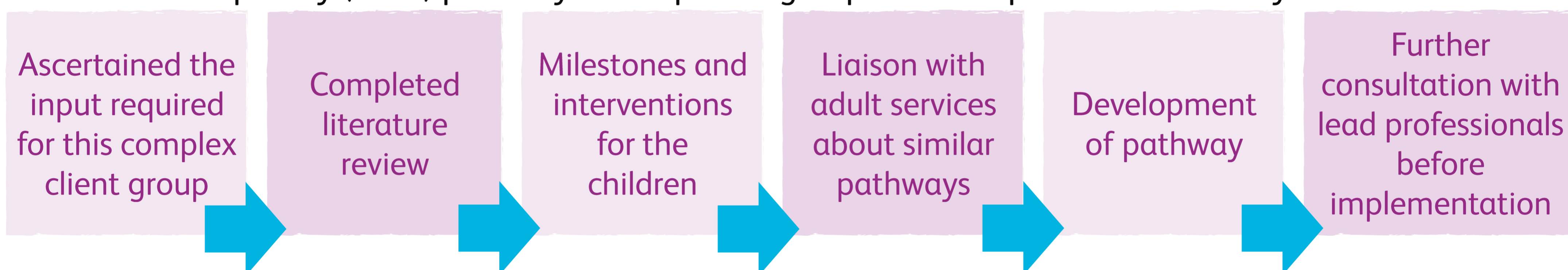
Aim

To develop a pathway to provide a streamlined service for children/ young people (CYP) with a prolonged disorder of consciousness (PDOC) in a residential rehabilitation setting.



Method

- A multidisciplinary (MDT) pathway development group was set up and met monthly:



Evidence Base

- Discharge planning for children in PDOC should begin in the first month of rehabilitation (Kramer et al, 2013).
- Active management and on-going assessment and treatment must include:
 - An appropriate maintenance therapy programme to manage physical disability
 - An appropriate environment to provide controlled stimulation and encouragement for interaction
 - Ongoing monitoring of level of responsiveness (RCP, 2013)

Name: DOB: TCT number: Date of admission	The TCT Pathway for Children and young people with a tracheostomy	Professional responsible for action	Name of who actioned by:	Date and time when actioned:	Comments:
Day 1	Sling assessment + provision (or day two depending on admission time)	OT			
	Wheelchair provision	PT			
	Welcoming family and CYP on house	N+C			
	Complete admission paperwork	N+C			
	Start care plan, request support from MDT	N+C			
	FLACC	N+C			
	All about me information	SLT			
	Resus	DRs			
	Skin integrity Ax	N+C			
	Feeding regime	N+C			
	Start moving and handling Ax	OT, PT, N+C			

Figure 1: Snapshot of the pathway

Conclusion

An integrated pathway has been developed which ensures children/ young people with PDOC and their families are at the centre of the rehabilitation process. This pathway has promoted:

- Treatments that are consistent and evidence-based
- Collaboration between disciplines
- Timely discharge planning
- Standards to audit against
- Resources to manage families expectations

References

- Royal College of Physicians, 2013, Prolonged Disorders of Consciousness: National Clinical Guidelines
- Pool J and Magee WL 2016 Music in the Treatment of Children and Youth with Prolonged Disorders of Consciousness. *Front. Psychol.* 7:202. doi: 10.3389/fpsyg.2016.00202
- Kramer ME1, Suskauer SJ, Christensen JR, DeMatt EJ, Trovato MK, Salorio CF, Slomine BS, 2013 Examining acute rehabilitation outcomes for children with total functional dependence after traumatic brain injury: a pilot study. *J Head Trauma Rehabil.* Sep-Oct;28(5):361-70. doi: 10.1097/HTR.0b013e31824da031.
- Currie, VL & Harvey, G 2000, 'The use of care pathways as tools to support the implementation of evidence-based practice'. *Journal of Interprofessional Care*, 14(4), pp. 311-323.

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