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.

Method

- A multidisciplinary (MDT) pathway development group was set up and met monthly:
  - Ascertain the input required for this complex client group
  - Completed literature review
  - Milestones and interventions for the children
  - Liaison with adult services about similar pathways
  - Development of pathway
  - Further consultation with lead professionals before implementation

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)

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


@HmillsMills
hmills@thechildrenstrust.org.uk

Please scan the QR Code to access a PDF of this poster in the Research section of our website: www.thechildrenstrust.org.uk

Charity Registration Number 288018