Transitional Health Care Planning for Young People with Disabilities

Lorraine Hooton
Senior Community Learning Disability Nurse
Transition Team for Young People with Disabilities
Oxleas NHS Foundation Trust Bromley

Transitional Health Care Planning

There is considerable evidence that young people with learning disabilities experience difficulties with regard to ensuring access to adequate health care at transition especially with regard to continuity of health care

DOH Valuing People 2001

Transitional Health Care Planning

- A transitional health care plan identifies health needs and the professionals involved in the young persons life.
- The document will be part of their Personal Health Profile and go with the young person to be shared with agreed professionals.
- Defines the process of care during transition from children's to adult services for adolescents with complex health needs who have a learning disability.
- Identifies gaps in resources and barriers to service provision and considers possible solutions.
- Develops a written Health Care Plan which will provide information on the current health needs and possible future support the young person is going to need.

Flow Chart

- Health Transition Operational Group Panel Meeting / Eligibility
- Write to client/carer for consent
- If consent given make contact with carer; arrange home visit
- Complete home visit; information gathering
- Contact identified health professionals re; transition pathway
- Complete Transitional Health Care Plan
- Forward to client/carer to go over to make required amendments
- Home visit to obtain client/carer signature. Plan completed. Share with agreed health professionals

Challenges

- Gathering information
- I.T (computer) systems are not compatible
- How are Transitional Health care Plans used by service users? (working document)
- Who will monitor and maintain the document once completed?
- Consent to share information – sign off via parent/carer
- Manpower

Successes

- Enhanced partnership working
- Earlier engagement by adult services in meeting the healthcare needs of young people
- Smoother transition from paediatric to adult healthcare
- Better tracking of young people's ongoing complex health needs; having all relevant health information in one document
- Useful information about the young person's healthcare needs which can inform strategic planning and commissioning in local area

Successes

Bromley's work on developing transitional health care plans and support for young people to move smoothly from paediatric to adult health services was accepted for inclusion as a case study to be shared nationally and was recognised as an example of best practice by NHS Commissioning Support for London 2011

THANK-YOU
FOR YOUR TIME

ANY QUESTIONS