

Curriculum Vitae

Dr Andrew Easton

Consultant Forensic Psychiatrist (Retired from NHS- 2014)

- Primary Medical Qualification – MBBS London 1983
- Other qualifications – BSc London 1979
MRCPsych 1987
MMedSc Leeds 1988
FRCPsych 2007
- General Medical Counsel – 2826697 on Specialist Register since 1996
- Nationality – British
- Revalidation approved Feb 2019

CURRENT WORK:

- 1) Courts and Tribunal Service- Medical Member, First Tier Tribunal; Health, Education and Social Care Chamber, Mental Health. 2013-ongoing.
- 2) Second Opinion Approved Doctor, Care Quality Commission 2014-ongoing.

Medico-legal Experience:

25 years of report writing, involving cases of:

Personal Injury

Criminal

Medical Negligence

Mental Health Act related.

Average of 50 reports annually.

Attendance at court as Expert witness on numerous occasions over the years.

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY:

Pre-registration House Jobs:

- 1) August 1983-Jan 1984- Chest Medicine and Radiotherapy, Middlesex Hospital London.
- 2) Feb 1984-July 1984-General Surgery and Orthopaedics, St Albans City Hospital.

SHO/REGISTRAR TRAINING SCHEME IN PSYCHIATRY:

August 1984-September 1988; Leeds, Pontefract and Wakefield Training scheme, jobs based in Leeds at various hospitals including St James University Hospital, High Royds Hospital, Leeds General Infirmary, Meanwood Park Hospital and Tuke House Psychotherapy Unit .

HIGHER TRAINING SCHEME IN PSYCHIATRY:

October 1988-Feb 1992; Yorkshire Regional Training scheme in Psychiatry.

Year 1- General Psychiatry-South Leeds

Year 2-General Psychiatry and Rehabilitation-Huddersfield

Year 3- General Psychiatry (special interest in Forensic Psychiatry)-West Leeds/Wakefield

Year 4-Locum Consultant in General Psychiatry, Bradford

CONSULTANT POSTS:

- 1) Consultant in General Psychiatry and Rehabilitation-Huddersfield St Lukes Hospital, March 1992-July 1994
- 2) Consultant in General Psychiatry and Rehabilitation-Leeds Eastern Health Authority and then Leeds Community and Mental Health Trust, August 1994-July 1998. UP to 30 in-patients and 500 out-patients.
- 3) Consultant in Rehabilitation Psychiatry-Leeds Mental Health Trust, August 1998-August 2002. 50 inpatient beds and 200 out-patients, including restricted patients.
- 4) Consultant Forensic Psychiatrist-Leeds Partnerships Mental Health Foundation NHS Trust and then Leeds & York Partnership Foundation NHS Trust, September 2002-June 2014. 18-26 beds, primarily low secure with step down rehabilitation, plus 40 out-patients.

Post-NHS:

- 5) Consultant Psychiatrist- Alpha Hospital, Sheffield. October 2014-December 2015.
13 bedded locked rehabilitation service for women suffering from mental illness and PD. All detained under the Mental Health Act (1983) and many under Part III of the Act.

Key Achievements

1) I have developed delivered and improved the quality and effectiveness of the forensic service within Leeds, the length of stay well below national average and exceeding national standards such as NICE and Care quality initiatives.

2) I have pursued the development, to the highest standard, the areas of psychopharmacology applying various NICE guidance and electroconvulsive therapy nationally and locally according to college standards. In applying knowledge of psychopharmacology I have developed considerable experience treating patients suffering from resistant illness, particularly schizophrenia. I have spearheaded local approaches to medicines management, designing a prescribing competency tool for doctors and worked on a medicines competency tool for nurses.

3) I have achieved significant service development, a community rehabilitation unit and a new women's service. I believe morale in the Service has improved. I have striven to maintain excellent relationships with colleagues in all disciplines, also encouraging open patient involvement at all levels.

4) I have used expertise in databases to enhance both my service and many aspects of City-wide working, also using knowledge of information technology to further the Trust process in its involvement with the National Patient System for Information Technology.

Experience Developing and Maintaining a High Quality Service

Development of new assessment and referral procedures over last year. Chairing Referral Meetings.

I have designed several databases specific to Forensic Services, including: a mental health act database with enhancements for community treatment orders and monitoring of activity with ministry of justice and a physical investigation database.

Multi-disciplinary working is to a high standard. 360 degree appraisals have shown above average results for my specialty from all other professionals and from both in-patients and out-patients with good rapport emphasised.

The service has, over the last two years improved throughput, length of stay reduced to 75% of the national average for the rehabilitation service and below national average for assessment and treatment beds.

Actively involved in Trust Clinical Guidelines and Clinical outcomes Standing support group ensuring that NICE guidelines are applied effectively across the Trust, within Forensic in particular, also advising on relevance of new guidelines to the Trust.

Member of group analysing best clinical utilisation of electronic systems and leading on developing an electronic prescribing module.

My service is now paper free and includes multi-disciplinary risk ratings using electronic projection systems.

Developed, delivered and implemented a prescribing competency tool, in 2010, along with ongoing refinements to the tool and feedback procedures on a weekly basis. This has reduced the corporate risk related to prescribing in the Trust from extreme to moderate.

Progressing patient involvement including Recovery Model and Service User Clinical Governance Council.

Developed Communications, Policies and Procedures sub groups and an audit programme within Forensic Clinical governance agenda.

Designed new ECT record form in 2009, of which re-audit is underway.

Monitoring of high dose antipsychotic drugs and s58 (MHA 1983) performance monitoring regularly.

Member of Prescribing Observatory for Mental Health, completed two audits of anti-psychotic prescribing within Forensic services, 2008 and 2010. Also involved in POMH audits on lithium prescribing and depot side effect monitoring 2009-2011.

Carried out Trustwide audit of ethnicity and use of mental health act, 2006-08

Ensured accreditation of the Trust with Excellence by the ECT Accreditation service in 2011. Several audits of electroconvulsive therapy practice, supervising various professionals, ongoing.

One year comparison of two Lithium analysers for lithium monitoring, 2007-08 and 2008-2009.

Involved in peer reviews of ECT units nationally as lead reviewer.

Managing and Leading a High Quality Service

NATIONAL

Member of working group to improve medicines management organised by department of health, 2007-2008.

Chair, Special Committee for Electroconvulsive Therapy and related treatments. Advise on all standards related to ECT.2006 on.

Member of the Accreditation Advisory Committee for the Electroconvulsive Therapy Accreditation Service involved in scrutiny, approval and accreditation of ECT Services. 2005-

Member of Executive and Web-site editor for Special Interest Group in Psychopharmacology 2006-2013

Advised on NICE atypical antipsychotic drug appraisal.

Advised National Patient Safety Agency on Alert regarding ECT incidents.

REGIONAL

Active member of Northern and Yorkshire Forensic catchment group and new referral assessment sub-group.

LOCAL

Chair, Drug and Therapeutics Committee 2006-2011, now co-chair Clinical Interventions Standing Support Group, developing systems for introduction and monitoring of new drugs and monitoring other therapeutic areas.

Chair, Medicines Management Committee including development of, and refining governance procedures around drug-related incidents within the Trust.

Redesigned medication card 2010. Planning new electronic prescribing and administration system.

Forensic management group member, developing model for single service across Leeds and York.

Contributing to the NHS through Research and Innovation

INNOVATION

Development of several new databases and an electronic depot prescribing and monitoring system.

I was instrumental in making Leeds one of the first national centres to run the Clozaril Point of care haematology investigation system in 2007

I have also been central to developing a training DVD on ECT for doctors which includes a patient information video on the treatment, funded by the Primary care Trust

NATIONAL

Principle investigator in a new multi-centre trial examining ketamine augmentation in ECT, proposed by Prof Ian Anderson in Manchester. Site initiation Dec 2012, results now published.

Proposal for a multi-centre trial of ultra-brief pulse ECT currently underway, expanding on some work being undertaken in Australia.

LOCAL

I have Supervised both junior and senior trainees in various research projects, most recently one on comparing outcomes between different pulse widths in ECT which has been shown as a poster presentation at a college meeting.

Committed to supporting and encouraging research carried out by trainee doctors

Co-EDITOR and Co author of the Third Edition of the Royal College Handbook on ECT, published June 2013.

Acknowledged contributor to Royal College guideline on unlicensed prescribing of licensed medication reviewed 2009.

Developed Prolactin monitoring guidelines published in Maudsley Guideline 2012

Contributing to the NHS through Teaching and Training

National teacher, on regular basis, on programmes regarding ECT Services organised by the Royal College of Psychiatrists. 1) Annual training days for Consultants leading ECT services 2) Teaching SpR's in Ireland. 3) Training for Prescribers

Regular teacher on the National ECT Nurse Competencies Training Programme, delivered three times in 2008-2009 and further courses in 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013 and 2014.

Frequent presentations at Continuing Professional Development meetings, organised on a national level by Andrew Sims Centre, on ECT.

I have developed the teaching programme for senior house officers and other staff for delivery of Electroconvulsive therapy in Leeds and supervise doctors in safe application of the treatment. This is being further developed to include effective competency monitoring.

SHO training sessions in Medicines Management and use of EEG in ECT.

Annual presentation on local Masters Course on Indications for ECT and NICE guidelines.

I devised and implemented the Trust wide mentorship scheme by involving consultant colleagues in consultation and delivering mentorship personally