

Promoting the MCA in the acute hospital setting

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An MCA CQUIN was agreed with the local CCG for funding of a short term MCA Lead post from April-March. Following recruitment, the final contract was 7 ½ months duration. The remit was to ensure compliance with the MCA and to achieve the set targets. Briefing sessions, of 50 – 60 minutes, were offered to all wards and departments. In 4 months 75 sessions were held and 587 staff attended briefings. External MCA training was commissioned for consultants. There was a regular presence on wards of MCA lead. Wards were visited and case notes audited to check compliance with the MCA when DoLS authorisations were sought. A database was completed for all DoLS requests and the outcomes of these. Case notes were audited to see if MCA was considered when patients were admitted with dementia, delirium, confusion or agitation. Support, to all staff groups, was provided in undertaking capacity assessments.

Project results/evaluation

A quiz is undertaken at the end of briefings to ascertain staff's knowledge of MCA/DoLS. There has been over a 220% increase in the number of DoLS referrals. There has been an increase in the number of capacity assessments being undertaken prior to a DoLS authorisation request. Requests for support around issues relating to MCA/DoLS are being received from wards/ departments as well as from consultants.

Project area classification

Hospital care	x	Emergency care	x
GP care		Dementia	x
Social care		Learning disability	x
Voluntary sector		Other mental health	x
Financial services		Palliative care	x
Police		Advance planning, LPAs	x
Legal		Commissioning	
Community health care		Training	x
Nursing and care home		For professionals?	x
Acute care	x	For public and service users?	
Chronic care	x		