

A Therapeutic PICU

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Deborah Wildgoose – Nurse Consultant Adult Mental
Health Services



Background



PICU Policy Implementation Guide (DH 2002)

- All patients will receive an intensive therapeutic programme:
 - Psychological and other interventions
 - Social interventions
 - Environmental interventions



What the literature tells us...

- Difficult to measure examine role and impact of PICU's (including the provision of any therapy)
- A literature review of Psychiatric Intensive Care Unit's carried out last year identified that, with regard to efficacy, the evidence is very poor (Bowers et al 2008)
- One study on service user satisfaction has been completed (Wykes and Carroll 1993)
- More focus required to attempt to understand the role, function and purpose of intensive care



So how do we know care is therapeutic?

- How far do we go in meeting the aspirations of the policy implementation guide (and beyond)?
- what do they mean 7 years on?
 - Physical health
 - Smoking cessation
 - Education about mental health wellbeing



So to today.....

- Focus on therapy... in all its forms
- Prompt discussion and debate
- Network and share good practice and problem areas... one service's difficulty is another's good practice

