Information Sheet 1

This document is for the attention of all Allied Health Professionals working in Adult services across health and Social care in Scotland

Introduction

The Allied Health Professions Active and Independent Living Improvement Programme (AILIP) was developed following a debate on rehabilitation in the Scottish Parliament in 2015. Its vision is that......

“Allied Health Professionals will work in partnership with the people of Scotland to enable them to live healthy, active and independent lives by supporting personal outcomes for health and wellbeing”

There is growing evidence of the key role of AHPs in improving health and wellbeing across all ages. For AHPs to support people in living healthy, active and independent lives, we need to have a better understanding of where our workforce is intervening as per the bespoke needs of the individual.

We are therefore going to undertake a national survey using the University of Newcastle Lifecurve model to further this end. AILIP has formed a partnership with Newcastle and Strathclyde Universities to investigate how the Lifecurve can support the future work of AHPs across health and social care; particularly in how we support people around early intervention and supported self-management and in adopting preventative approaches.

Why are we doing this survey? During our national engagement events in 2016 it was clear from the feedback given that we as AHPs need to change how/where/when we intervene in a way that moves towards achieving our vision. This national survey will therefore help us to understand where we, as the AHP workforce, are currently intervening in people’s lives.

What is the Lifecurve? Newcastle University, in partnership with ADL Smartcare Research (independent software company), has developed a model of ‘Compressed Functional Decline’, (what they call the Lifecurve), which is based on evidence in the literature that there is a hierarchical order to the loss of functional ability. Put simply this means that we lose our ability to carry out everyday activities in a ‘set order’. This is what we call the Lifecurve.

Thus, if we know which activity the individual cannot currently do independently, we will have advance knowledge of what their next challenge will be. These powerful insights will be of great importance in
improving and sustaining the health and wellbeing of the general population. The potential impact of this enhanced information will underpin the quality of decisions people make, identify their future needs and what kind of interventions to implement dependent upon where a person is on their own Lifecurve.

Why is this important and what’s in it for you as an AHP? Completing this survey will ensure you are involved in helping shape the way we as AHPs develop our services to support people in living healthy, active and independent lives, thus ‘Adding Life To Years’

What we need from you? On a yet to be agreed date in April 2017 we will ask every AHP working in Adult Health and Social Care across Scotland to invite two service users, who are attending for an AHP intervention on that day, to complete the Lifecurve survey. An advanced copy of this survey will be shared with you in due course.

The survey is being developed in collaboration with Health and Social Care Analysts in the Scottish Government, and is currently being piloted through a smaller feasibility study to ensure the process can be undertaken at scale.

Between now and April 2017 you will be kept up to date with all activities relating to this survey which will include a series of video conferences which you will be able to view.

What you can do now?

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| Join the AHP AILIP Community of Practice (COP) | Join by clicking on link below: [http://www.knowledge.scot.nhs.uk/ahpcommunity.aspx](http://www.knowledge.scot.nhs.uk/ahpcommunity.aspx)  
Note: To join the Community of Practice you will require an Athens password. Instructions for this are found on the NES Knowledge network. | You can access all AILIP/Survey updates and documents are loaded onto Community of Practice.  
If you do not have an Athens password, you will still be able to view and download all documents but you will not be alerted to any updates. |
| Find out What the Lifecurve is | Watch/Listen to Professor Gore’s Lifecurve information video on the following link from 19th December 2016: [http://www.knowledge.scot.nhs.uk/ahpcommunity/lifecurve-survey-2017.aspx](http://www.knowledge.scot.nhs.uk/ahpcommunity/lifecurve-survey-2017.aspx) | This will give you awareness of the origin behind the Lifecurve and why we are undertaking this survey. |