



Community engagement and partnerships


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Community engagement project


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Project context

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- To provide early interventions for hard to reach
 - To help accessing information and services
 - To enable self- managing their condition

Why are partnerships important?

- To help and support each other - common goal
- To share expertise, information and resources
- Work together for mutual benefit
- Examples of partnership working

Project approach to engagement

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- Developed flexible approach/framework
 - Identified ways to engage and deliver information
 - Engaged with community organisations, NHS and GPs

How do we deliver early intervention?

Education workshops



Information stall



Media participation



Project outputs

- Tailor-made self-management programme
- Epilepsy service user forum
- Developed multi-lingual voiceover video
- Trained local volunteers ambassadors

Patient perspectives

“Main thing is, it stopped me from driving, when February goes round, it will be one year, I am on this medication for a year, before I have anymore fits, I am going to see if I could get my driving license, that’s the main thing , that’s changed, I can’t take my daughter outside in summer... medicines side-effect” (Male, retired)

“I can’t work long hours like a normal person, if I do I get stressed and I have blackouts” (Male 37)

Getting help and information

“... No club, nothing near by. Doctor tell me to take medicine, check my weight, blood pressure and medicine during appointments and tell me everything is normal, that’s it” (Male 37)

“ Hospital doctor give advice about cooking, shower and how to take medicines, whatever the doctor says I follow, I have not thought about asking doctor anything... I prefer face to face advice if I need help or information because I have small children, I am in tension all the time” (Female)

All about epilepsy

Multilingual voiceover video


Facts about epilepsy

Patient experiences

Available online



Project outcomes




Reached about 800
people via early
interventions

Media participation
showed direct results on
the helpline

Patient/carer/family and
community feedback shows
increase in knowledge and
awareness about epilepsy and
services

Community engagement outcomes

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- Beneficial outcomes are on 4 levels:
 - Individuals
 - Community
 - Service delivery
 - Strategic for organisations

Checklist for planning community engagement

- Who needs to take part?
- How best to reach them?
- How could past experience shape future involvement positively or negatively?
- Ensure opportunities for engagement are meaningful
- Message is communicated clearly
- Consider creative approaches to community engagement

Questions

