

## **Liverpool John Moores University Suicide & Self-harm Research Group (SSHRG)**

The SSHRG looks at conducting psychological research into suicide and self-harm. It is comprised of a group of academics, research staff and postgraduate students whose research covers a wide variety of suicide and self-harm research about individuals, communities and populations.

### **On-going work (as at November 2021)**

#### **James' Place Evaluation**

Conducting research across different aspects of the service including:

- Ongoing process evaluations of how the service is working,
- Evaluating the long-term outcomes for men using the service,
- Reviewing the impact on different men engaging with the service,
- Researching the outcomes for men using the service pre and post Covid19.

#### **The Feasibility & Efficacy of the James' Place Brief Psychological Therapeutic Model PhD**

A quantitative study examining the short and long-term effectiveness of the model, includes:

- A systematic review looking at the role of co-production in community-based suicide prevention interventions among adults,
- A Public Health case study describing the James' Place service and model,
- A qualitative study looking at the fidelity of the James' Place model.

#### **Suicide Postvention Services PhD**

A study on the effectiveness of suicide bereavement postvention services in England. Interviews will be analysed using thematic analysis and outcome evaluation data will be analysed.

#### **Configuration and Utilisation of the Clinical Pathways by Patients Attending A&E in Suicidal Crisis PhD**

Working collaboratively with Cheshire and Wirral Partnership and Mersey Care NHS Trusts, the aim of this research is to examine:

- Data at 9 A&Es for individuals who attend in suicidal crisis, following self-harm and/or a suicide attempt,
- Clinical pathways available to individuals who attend A&E in suicidal crisis,
- Patterns of pathway usage,
- Similarities and differences across each service's clinical pathways,
- Factors influencing the decision-making of clinical staff involved in pathway management.

## **Community Outpatient Psychotherapy Engagement Scheme for Self-harm (COPESS): a feasibility trial**

A brief talking therapies intervention for depression and self-harm has been designed for use in a community setting. This mixed methods feasibility study with repeated measures will examine the feasibility and acceptability of the COPESS for people with self-harm and depression in the community compared to routine care.

## **COMplex mental health PATways (COMPAT)**

In collaboration with Cheshire and Wirral Partnership NHS Trust this project aims to inform the development of improved service models for people with complex mental health needs. The project involves reviewing medical health records of service users who meet the criteria, as well as reviewing people's treatment and management within the service over time, to understand the experience of service users who may have lived in different types of placements locally or away from home.

## **Imagining the Future: A Service Evaluation**

'Imagining the Future' is a plan set up by Cheshire and Wirral Partnership NHS Trust to involve both internal staff and external partners in developing plans for the future. A mixed method approach was used to examine views towards eight strategic objectives. Recommendations were made following this report.

## **The Impact of Intimate Partner Abuse**

This body of work is a detailed investigation of the nature of intimate partner abuse experienced by victims and survivors in the general population and how this interacts with suicide risk. This paper, currently being prepared for publication, helps to deepen our understanding of the relationship between intimate partner abuse and suicidality.

## **"Informal families like ours seemed unaccounted for" Case Study**

This research explored the experience of informal families, such as informal fostering or caring, and provides a case study of a father who is informally caring for three children of family/friends. Concluding, local Covid19 restrictions have had detrimental effects on informal families, mentally ill individuals and their carers.

## **Children and Young People Suicidal Crisis Data**

An audit of Alder Hey Children's Hospital's A&E and crisis line data for the years 2019-21, identifying all young people who presented in suicidal crisis during this time, examining:

- Demographics and characteristics of young people who presented in crisis,
- The ways in which presentations of the crisis were recorded at the site,

- The clinical pathways available to young people who attended A&E,
- The patterns of pathway usage.

Preliminary analyses have been conducted to date.

### **The Adolescents' lockdown-induced coping experiences (ALICE) study**

A mixed-method study examining early adolescents' experiences of the Covid19 pandemic and the impact on their mental health and wellbeing. Analysis identified several protective factors that reduced the likelihood of internalising and externalising difficulties and improved wellbeing. Further analysis identified four themes; stress, worry and challenge; feelings of loss; embracing lockdown; change: 'Life feels weird'.

### **Ask, Listen, Act – Working Together to Inform the Provision of SEND Support for Children after the Covid19 Pandemic**

This study, funded by NIHR, intends to understand the impact of the Covid19 pandemic and associated lockdowns on children with special educational needs and disabilities, to reduce the inequalities and mitigate the long-term impacts of Covid19 for children with SEND.

### **SSHRG Future Projects**

- A pilot to evaluate the operational feasibility, acceptability and safety of implementing the ASPIRE intervention in Liverpool secondary schools, and training education-based staff and existing Young Persons Advisory Service (YPAS) clinical staff to deliver the ASPIRE intervention, either on-site (i.e. within the pupil's school) or off-site (i.e. within a YPAS hub in Liverpool), depending up pupil preferences.
- 'Making a shift towards school-based intervention'; assessing the social validity of a school-based suicide prevention intervention.
- Suicide Prevention among men in community based settings: a prospective quasi-experimental controlled study.
- Care pathways, Rapid Identification Services, Interventions and Support - CRISIS Research Programme.

More information can be found at: <https://www.ljmu.ac.uk/research/centres-and-institutes/research-centre-in-brain-and-behaviour/expertise/forensic-and-social-research/suicide-and-self-harm-research/>

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