

PEACE

Pathway for eating disorders and autism developed from clinical experience

ISSUE 3 | NOVEMBER

PEACE NEWSLETTER STAFF UPDATE



RESEARCH

THE PREVALENCE OF AUTISM IN CAMHS EATING DISORDER SERVICES PEACE is investigating the prevalence of autism and autistic traits in our CAMHS Eating Disorder Services across Berkshire, Oxfordshire, and Buckinghamshire.

Prior to PEACE, there was **no clear data** about the prevalence of autism in CAMHS ED services across



SCREENING FOR AUTISM:

38% of 289 young people, presenting to our three eating disorder services, score above threshold on the AQ-10 screening measure.

| | % of Total Autism Cases (Diagnosed or Suspected) | % of CYP with Existing Autism Diagnoses | % of CYP with Suspected Autism | % of CYP on the Neurodevelopmental Waitlist or accessing a Private autism assessment |
|--------|--|---|--------------------------------------|---|
| BUCKS | 40% (65 out of 164) | 14% | 26% | 12% |
| OXFORD | 48% (66 out of 137) | 17% | 31% | 5% |
| BERKS | 51% (63 out of 124) | 12% | 39% | 13% |

OVERALL:

46% of young people have diagnosed or suspected autism across our three CAMHS Eating Disorder Services.

PARENT FEEDBACK

"It's the first time that someone has suggested that we just start improving what is already there, so we **didn't** walk out feeling overwhelmed, we felt like we could actually make some improvements quite easily."

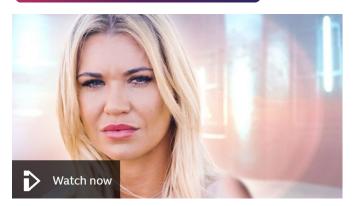




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WORTH A LOOK



BBC IPLAYER- CHRISTINE MCGUINNESS: UNMASKING MY AUTISM

Christine McGuinness explores autism in women and how many have had gone undiagnosed for decades.

She discusses why it often takes a long time for autistic women to receive a diagnosis, the impact this has on them, and what can be done to improve their lives.

Press Ctrl+Click on the image to visit this webpage.

RESEARCH

WHAT I WISHED I KNEW STUDY

PEACE have gained ethical approval from the Health Research Authority to conduct a mixed methods analysis on service user, clinician, and carer experiences on treatments for co-occurring eating disorders and autism.

The study aims to gain more understanding of **CAMHS** eating disorder treatment experiences for:

- Young autistic adults (suspected or formally diagnosed with autism)
- Carers
- Healthcare professionals working with and treating eating disorders.

We want to better understand what individuals wished they had known or had in place when starting their eating disorder treatment journey.

SAVE THE DATE

STAFF TRAINING WEBINAR

Friday 17th November, 2023 *Madeleine Oakley & parent perspective*

This webinar will discuss support for parents, carers and families, key challenges, and what can be done to help.

PEACE PARTICIPATION



The PEACE project is **co-produced** with both **young people and parents with lived experience.** We run a monthly session with each group as their input is so **invaluable to PEACE work.** They support us in many areas, a few

examples being **providing feedback** on our work, **contributing their ideas, sharing personal experiences** and sometimes doing **individual work** between our monthly groups.

USEFUL RESOURCES

(Press ctrl + click to follow the links)

How can we make sessions right for you?

How can we make sessions right for you

PEACE communication passport:

Communication Passport

Charlie Waller: How can I help my autistic child with their mental health:

How can I help my autistic child with their mental health? (charliewaller.org)

If you feel that support from the PEACE team would be helpful, please contact us on: peace.pathway@oxfordhealth.nhs.uk