Reviewer’s report

Title: The evaluation of the use of a new Physical Health Plan (PHP) for people with psychosis: Protocol for a Quality Improvement study

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Reviewer: Ratna Sohanpal

Reviewer's report:

This is an interesting well written article focusing on improving the uptake of physical health services among people with serious mental illness via development and evaluation of a physical health plan (PHP) in an exploratory study using a patient partnership approach. Here are a few comments and questions for authors to consider:

Background:
- It will be helpful to list a few physical health interventions or services that are offered to people with SMI
- It will be useful to highlight the rationale in terms of doing this study, what health outcomes are envisaged as a result of doing this study and what broad impact it could have among people living with SMI, to the NHS, if any.

In the pre-clinical developmental phase:
- are the focus groups within patient and public involvement remit or were these service users consented to take part in the focus group?
- it would be useful to state what usual care (support with physical health) looks like in primary care and secondary care and what should be the pathway in terms of care coordination between primary and secondary care for people with SMI.

Modelling phase:

The questions shown in the sample questions in figure 1 do not match what is given in text. It might be useful to have the the whole questionnaire. Were health literacy, or language issues considered with regard to use of PHP or is this not a problem in this population?

In Stage 1: Initial qualitative work to refine and validate the Theory of Change

- There is no mention of approximate number of focus groups and number of people in a focus group planned, how many will be enough? It would be good to state the rationale for conducting focus groups. How many is all staff? What is the sampling method?
- Is the topic guide - structures, semi-structured, open?
- Will the person conducting the focus groups also conducting recruitment and will they be known to the service users, staff approached?
Stage 2: Use of the PHP
How many appointments can a service user have with care coordinator for their PHP or action plans discussed? Is there any training involved for staff in the use of PHP?

Outcomes:
What is the approximate timeline for when patients should attend a physical health service following the use of PHP? What is the current upatake?
When are the PAM, PHASE assessments carried out?
How soon is the repeat PHP? and how will this be measures?

Analysis:
It will be useful to state what is thematic analysis, rationale for using it and should be suported with references.

Level of interest
Please indicate how interesting you found the manuscript:

An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

Quality of written English
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