

SCEPTRE NEWSLETTER

Welcome!

Despite the challenges of the past two years, work across the SCEPTRE programme has continued. We have needed to change our plans, sometimes with very little notice. But, the commitment of the SCEPTRE team continues. This third annual newsletter provides a round-up of what has been a very busy and productive year.

SCEPTRE PROGRESS UPDATE

The past year has been busy. We've developed a package of support to assist smokers with severe mental illness to change their smoking behaviours following discharge from admission to a smokefree mental health ward. To do this we consulted with people who use mental health services, ward-based and community mental health professionals, and experts in designing smoking cessation interventions.

We planned how we will test the SCEPTRE intervention with a small group of patients recruited from two of our partner Trusts and submitted applications for review by the Health Research Authority and Research Ethics Committee. Approvals have just been received to conduct a small pilot study to test the SCEPTRE package of support.

We are preparing to train the specialist mental health workers who will deliver the intervention package and meeting with trusts to find the best ways to recruit participants. We hope to begin recruiting patients at the end of March 2022.

Even though Covid will continue to challenge the delivery of NHS research, our planning and flexibility to change means that we are confident that we can move to the larger feasibility trial in the Winter of 2022.

We continue to meet annually with the SCEPTRE Programme Steering Committee, who provide an independent view on our conduct of the research programme.

At the end of January, led by Lisa Huddleston, we submitted our second annual report to the National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) which has been accepted.

PUBLICATIONS NEWS

Our second systematic review paper - *A Systematic Review of Mental Health Professionals, Patients, and Carers' Perceived Barriers and Enablers to Supporting Smoking Cessation in Mental Health Settings* - was published in the Nicotine and Tobacco Research Journal in January 2022. We are very pleased to share that it was selected as 'Editors Choice'.

We are working on two additional publications. The first looks at how best to deliver smoking behaviour change interventions for adults with severe mental illness, while the second describes the development of the SCEPTRE intervention.

INVOLVING PATIENTS AND THE PUBLIC

The pandemic has meant that we have learned to move from face-to-face meetings to virtual ones. And despite never meeting in person our Patient and Public Involvement and Engagement (PPIE) panel continues to work as a cohesive group - with some great results.

Our PPIE panel have set their Terms of Reference and will meet quarterly, remotely for the time being. Members also stay in touch via telephone and email. Meetings generally include a general update on the progress of SCEPTRE and opportunities to provide input on maximising the positive impact for patients, providing feedback on study documents or processes, and discussing the best ways to share our research.

We have ambitions to grow our PPIE panel, hold panel-led events, and for members to join us at conferences. If you would like more information about the SCEPTRE PPIE panel or to express an interest in joining, please contact Emily Shoesmith by emailing dohs-sceptre@york.ac.uk



SCEPTRE: PUBLIC PROFILE

We believe that it is important to share our research with as many people as possible. To enable us to do this we have worked with our PPIE panel to find the best ways of doing this.

So far, and with the input of the PPIE panel we have rebranded our logo.



Many conferences, that we would have normally attended, have been cancelled or postponed due to the pandemic, so we have not been as active in this area as we planned. Slowly, though, events are taking place and we hope to be able to share our progress widely soon.

We have designed and user-tested a website (www.sceptreresearch.com) to showcase our work and spread the word about the SCEPTRE research programme. We will write posts on our blog 'A Breath of Fresh Air' to keep everyone updated on our progress. And of course we're on Twitter and Instagram!

