# Psychological Practice in Physical Health

# Expert Advisory Group (EAG)

## Expressions of Interest from Psychological Professionals working in physical health care

## Introduction

The National Psychological Professions Workforce Group is setting up an Expert Advisory Group on Psychological Practice in Physical Health.

Psychological practice in physical health care is focused on improving the experience and outcomes of people who experience physical health problems across the lifespan, and/or at risk of developing physical health problems.

The focus of this work is based on the priorities within the NHS Long Term Plan and emerging priorities as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic.

The Expert Advisory Group will oversee the development and design of a framework to deliver against the aims (see below) alongside establishing a wider consultation approach that will support sustainable multispecialty engagement and advice during the course of the work.

The Expert Advisory Group will include a core group and a wider reference group.

The aims are:

1. To bring together expertise in psychological approaches in physical healthcare
2. To support best practice in physical health care including (but not restricted) prevention, intervention and treatment, consultancy, education and training
3. To provide a bridge to best psychological practice advice to current and emerging national work streams focused on physical health care

The expected outputs from the Expert Advisory Group are:

1. A case for change and case for the development for psychological practice in physical health that maintains the patient/service user need at the core
2. A multi-level evidence based menu of what psychological professions are trained to provide (with different specialties) to impact on patient/service user experience and outcomes
3. A proposal to connect professional education in order to integrate mental health and physical health specialisms
4. Further health economic / outcome analysis of the impact of psychological approaches in physical health care

## Membership

We are seeking psychological professionals with recognised expertise in the following areas:

* Population/public health
* Training professionals
* Stroke
* Cancer
* ICU
* Cardiovascular
* Respiratory
* Major trauma
* Children’s health – acute
* Children’s health – long term conditions
* IAPT LTC - Diabetes, Respiratory, Cardiovascular
* Persistent physical symptoms
* Neurological conditions
* Long Covid

Members will be appointed because of their relevant experience or specific skills. They will be appointed as individuals and not as representatives of particular organisations.

The maximum size of the core group is not intended to exceed 20 members in total. (including chair, deputy chair and project manager support). It is recognised that members may not have the total breadth of experience as described and therefore the inputs of the external reference group will be key in delivering the outputs.

## Core Group Commitment

The Expert Advisory Core Group will meet every other month for 2 hours. The first meeting will be arranged to take place on **22nd June 2021 via MS Teams** and it expected that 6 meetings will take place by end of March 2022 at which point the Expert Advisory Group will be reviewed.

1. Members will be expected to attend five out six meetings.
2. Meetings will be held online.
3. Members will be expected to set aside sufficient time to attend the meetings and commit time to reading the papers and may be asked to present and share their expertise at meetings.
4. Members will be expected to contribute to the outputs of the group.
5. Members will be expected to work with the co-chairs and support as required between meetings.

## External Reference Group Commitment

The Expert Advisory External Reference Group will be expected to contribute to the work of the core group via comment and input to consultative processes.

1. Members will be expected to contribute to the outputs of the group.
2. Members are not required to attend the Core Group meetings

## How to apply

A brief CV and Expressions of Interest of 500 words or less describing how you meet the Person Specification is required. It should include your professional group and specialty area(s) in which you have expertise. Please indicate if you wish to be considered for the Core group or the External Reference Group or both. This should be sent to Dr Gita Bhutani, PPN England Co-Chair ([gita.bhutani@lscft.nhs.uk](mailto:gita.bhutani@lscft.nhs.uk)) no later than 24th May 2021.

## Person Specification for Psychological Professions Members

|  | Essential | Desirable |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Experience | Significant experience as a clinician and/or academic in a relevant field  Experience of working in multidisciplinary committees  Able to access relevant networks/professional bodies for additional inputs | Experience of working with the National Psychological Professions Workforce Group or Psychological Professions Networks or NHSE/I/HEE in relation to workforce development |
| Skills | Excellent verbal and written communication skills  General critical appraisal skills |  |
| Knowledge | Understanding of NHS and social care structure and current service delivery  Understanding of current workforce priorities and the challenges and opportunities for the psychological professions  Understanding of small group processes | Understanding the development of guidance and policy development |

## Closing Date: 24th May 2021