



Version 1, 11/08/2022 IRAS 321707

Understanding the role of adult community health services in avoiding hospital admissions

Topic guide

Interviews with both commissioners and providers explore the following questions:
(Note: use questions appropriate to participant)

- Please tell me a little bit about your role.
- To what extent and how do commissioners/providers define 'need' for community services?
- How do services get planned and then commissioned?
 - Core services – what are they?
- Has commissioning and how you work with commissioners/providers changed?
 - If so, how?
 - What is the decision making process?
- Are there any specific plans underway aimed at reducing hospital admissions?
- How are funding decisions made?
 - How does it get apportioned?
- What contractual mechanisms are used to deliver community services?
- What about resources - how are decisions made in terms of matching supply and demand?
 - How do commissioners allocate resources to match supply with demand.
 - How might the allocation of resources be improved to better match supply with demand?
- How do commissioners monitor levels of activity and quality of service delivery?
(or)
- How do providers monitor service performance?
- To what extent and how are these mechanisms and processes used to avoid admissions?
- What factors have determined the approaches used, including integration across health and social care boundaries?
- What outcomes do commissioners and providers value beyond admission avoidance?
- Is there anything else helpful for us to know that we have not covered today?
- Is there anyone else we should speak to?

Thank you for your time today!

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