Annual Health Checks – Information & Resources

People with learning disabilities (LD) have poorer physical and mental health than other people and die 15-20 years younger. Many of these deaths are avoidable and not inevitable.

Clinical evidence shows that Annual Health Checks can identify undetected health conditions early, ensure the appropriateness of ongoing treatments, promote health (e.g. through screening and immunisation) and establish trust and continuity of care.

GPs and practice nurses have the much-needed generalist skills to help people with a learning disability get timely access to an increasingly complex health and social care system.

The Enhanced scheme for providing the Annual Health Checks for 2017/18 included an uplift in the payments and the introduction of a National Health Check Template.

Ensuring patients with a learning disability are on the GP learning disability register should lead to better healthcare outcomes for this often disadvantaged group. Once on the register **all those aged 14 years and over should be having an Annual Health Check** – helping to reduce recognised health inequalities as well as having their reasonably adjusted care needs communicated more effectively to other NHS partners. Additionally, younger patients can be proactively immunised against flu and pneumonia.

National Template

The National template has been produced on 3 of the main GP clinical systems. It is available on **EMISWeb** and on **Vision** now (see information at end)

The template for TPP **System One** is in final stages and will be available imminently.

For **GP practices using other GP system software** please visit the NHS Employers resources to view the national template in Word version and with EMIS screenshots https://www.england.nhs.uk/gp/gpfv/investment/gp-contract/

RCGP - Step by step toolkit

This Toolkit is aimed at helping GPs and practice nurses carry out the health check to a high standard and ensure that people with a learning disability get timely access to the healthcare they need – please visit http://www.rcgp.org.uk/clinical-and-research/toolkits/health-check-toolkit.aspx

Further Resources

At NHS England, with the support of key partners, we are prioritising efforts to increase the number of children, young people and adults whose learning disability is known to their GP through having their status recorded on the QOF register so that they can receive a health check and other reasonably adjusted and proactive care – we're seeing good progress and would appreciate your help in sharing this:

Mencap and NHS England have worked together to produce two videos and a series of guides called Don't Miss Out to encourage people with a learning disability to check that their disability status is captured on their GP record. A number of resources are available which we would ask practices to display in waiting rooms – please visit www.mencap.org.uk/dontmissout

Better health for people with a learning disability: what social care staff need to know about GP learning disability registers, Annual Health Checks and the Summary Care Record - this guidance document and an accompanying film was developed by NDTi and VODG and is designed to support **social care providers** who want to improve the health and therefore the lives of the people they support. Specifically, it is about the important role they can play to ensure that people with learning disabilities:

- are on the GP learning disability Quality and Outcomes Framework (QOF) register
- get Annual Health Checks
- have additional information on their Summary Care Record that says what reasonable adjustments they need

Please visit https://www.ndti.org.uk/resources/publications/better-health-for-people-with-learning-disabilities for the Guide and
https://www.ndti.org.uk/resources/publications/better-health-for-people-with-learning-disabilities for the video.

Another way to help patients **with a learning disability is by asking for their consent to add Additional Information to their Summary Care Record (SCR AI).** This can be actioned by checking the box on the annual health check national template. It will help improve quality of care for patients when and if they are treated by other services, including emergency and urgent care. SCR AI uses existing information already recorded in the GP system and therefore helps to reduce the need for data entry into numerous systems. It captures a much richer level of detail than the standard Summary Care Record and without specifically opting in the additional information will not be available to NHS clinicians in other settings.

Where to find the Templates

Emis users: The **template** is in EMIS Library > Primary Care Templates > Learning Disabilities HCAP
   The **template** is active, the **protocol** is inactive.

The **protocol** - To activate the protocol, you need to go into the templates manager and then navigate to EMIS Library > EMIS Protocols > DES Protocols Its in as Health Check Action Plan Launch and Print Protocol. Right click on it, select Status and click activate, it will then be available to add to your F12 menu

Vision users - For Vision users instructions for downloading templates are found at http://www.inpshelp.co.uk/DLM500/Visionplus/index.htm#52225_1