

Long term rehabilitation for people who have had a stroke Invitation to join an advisory group

Background

The Peninsula Collaboration for Leadership in Applied Health Research and Care, or PenCLAHRC for short, is a collaboration between Universities and NHS organisations in the South West of England. It aims to deliver high-quality health research that improves medical practice. An important part of this work is ensuring that the research we carry out addresses the needs and priorities of patients and carers, and results in beneficial new treatments and services.

One of the research projects we are currently working on is about the benefits of long-term rehabilitation for people who have had a stroke. The idea for the project came from someone who has had a stroke. He was offered the conventional approach to rehabilitation during the first year after his stroke, which he found valuable. However, he felt that the health service then stopped expecting him to improve. He was given a leaflet about Action for Rehabilitation from Neurological Injury (ARNI). As a result, he suggested to members of the Peninsula Stroke Network Public Involvement Group the idea of researching the effectiveness of ARNI. PenCLAHRC is now working with him and the Stroke Network to develop a research project which will assess the effectiveness of the ARNI approach to rehabilitation. The information from this research will be used to help improve the provision of long-term rehabilitation services for people who have had a stroke.

We are currently putting together a team of people to help advise the researchers on this project and we think it is very important that we have advice from people who have either had a stroke or are caring for someone with a stroke. We hope that you will be willing to contribute your knowledge and expertise to this project by agreeing to become a member of the advisory group.

Payment

Travel expenses and other out of pocket expenses will be covered. You will also be offered payment of £15 per meeting, £25 per half a day and £50 per day for your time. This payment would cover your time and any other associated costs e.g. printing costs. Payment will be by submission of the claim form we will provide.

Responsibilities

1. Attendance at team meetings

Team meetings will be held at regular times throughout the year. You may also be contacted at other times to ask for your advice about matters related to the research project.

2. To deal with the associated paperwork of the team

You may be required to read certain paperwork before meetings.

3. During team meetings

You will be required to offer a patient/carer perspective on the development of the research, carrying out the research and putting the findings into practice. This is of central importance to the success of this work.

Our responsibilities

What you can expect from us:

- To be offered an initial meeting or contact with a member of the team to discuss any questions you may have and to be briefed about the project.
- To have any questions personally answered in confidence or at the team meetings.
- To be able to contact a member of the team before and after each meeting.

4. Person specification

- Must be able to work as part of a team.
- Have a friendly and approachable manner.
- Experience of stroke either as someone who has had a stroke or as a carer.
- Reliable and trustworthy.

If you are interested in participating in this work please contact Andy Gibson by the 30th June 2010 at:

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