How we can help you utilise data to improve mental health care

NHS Midlands and Lancashire (ML) provides business intelligence to mental health care providers and commissioners to gain understanding and insight into mental health care issues and improve patient outcomes. From validating and processing mental health data, to analysing and providing insight into problem areas, we can deliver a range of support, products, and expertise.

How you'll benefit

- Bringing information together to get an accurate and complete insight across the local population.
- Better understanding of patient outcomes to support decision making.
- Access to highly qualified experts - with an active knowledge skills network for mental health, including peer support, reviews and sharing of knowledge.
- Data quality and data management of NHS England's (NHSE's) Mental Health Services Data Set (MHSDS). Mental health data sets are quality controlled, accessible, and usable to analyse in an easy way and link to other health and population data. Our data management ensures clean, accessible data and impactful reports.
- Utilisation of MHSDS and the Improving Access to Psychological Therapies (IAPT) Data Set for data-driven solutions
- Experienced partnership to streamline data usage, reducing reliance on local flows.

Case study: Understanding mental health attendance in emergency departments

We built a dashboard to explore mental health attendance in emergency departments (EDs) providing insight to commissioners and providers in a concise and interactive way that also allowed exploration by populations. The insight helped commissioners to:
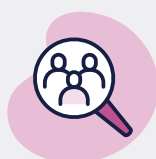
- quickly identify increases in mental health presentations and variations in care between hospitals
- establish a baseline for reducing mental health attendance
- assess the impact of diversion initiatives
- examine patient demographics
- evaluate the coverage and timeliness of Psychiatric Liaison teams supporting patients in EDs who are having a mental health crisis.

Why choose us

Streamlined data usage: We have partnered with integrated care boards (ICBs) to optimise MHSDS data usage, reducing reliance on local data flows. We also supported ICBs with training, 1:1 support, and guidelines.

Clean, accessible data: We also validated and de-duplicated data from MHSDS Commissioner Extracts across our geographical footprint.

Expert support: We use our expertise for data collection, submission, and quality improvement, ensuring reliable mental health data access.

Collaborative projects: We worked on the Host Commissioner expansion project, collaborating with NHS ML digital transformation colleagues, and also supported the NHSE Care Quality Commission ratings dashboard improvement work, focussing on learning disabilities and autism.

Comprehensive data management: Our approach to mental health data management ensures clean, accessible data and impactful reports - see examples to the right.

Experience in mental health

· **Children and young people eating disorders report:** Range of measures to help transform services in response to NHSE papers, Achieving Better Access to Mental Health Services by 2020 and Future in Mind - using ED data from NHSE.

· **Children and young people mental health dashboard:** Summary of mental health activity for under 18-year-olds receiving care from NHS-funded secondary mental health services – using metrics from MHSDS

· **IAPT performance reports:** Analysis of IAPT measures such as prevalence, completed treatment, and waiting times - using NHSE data.

· **Mental health activity:** Report on mental health admissions, ethnicity, acuity, and outpatients – using MHSDS at both ICB and provider levels.

· **Mental health commissioning for quality and innovation:** Report on outcomes for children and young people, perinatal, and community – using MHSDS.

· **Severe mental illness health checks:** Data collection on people with severe mental illness receiving full physical health checks – using data supplied by commissioners and gathered from primary care providers.

· **Dementia assessment and diagnosis:** Use of published data to help GPs support their patients in making informed choices about their care.