

2022 UK Parkinson's Audit - Executive Summary

Executive summary

This UK-wide audit measures the quality of care provided to people living with Parkinson's against a range of evidence-based guidance.

It involves Elderly Care and Neurology consultants, who care for people with movement disorders. It also includes Parkinson's nurses, occupational therapists, physiotherapists and speech and language therapists who care for people with Parkinson's. The audit engages services within these professions to measure the quality of their practice, within their model of care provision, and to trigger service improvement plans.

The 2022 UK Parkinson's audit reports on the care provided to 9,760 people with Parkinson's during the five month data collection period. It also includes the views of 6,795 people with Parkinson's and their carers, who responded to the Patient Reported Experience Measure (PREM) questionnaire about their experience of the service they attend.

Key themes for improvement

There is still work to be done across all specialties in the following areas:

- o specialised multidisciplinary working
- standardised practices
- o communication and information sharing
- medicines management
- o educating the workforce

Elderly Care and Neurology

Evidence of good practice

- timely specialist review
- adoption of remote consultations
- access to Parkinson's Nurse Specialists or equivalent
- access to therapists with experience in Parkinson's
- monitoring for impulsive compulsive behaviours
- bone health assessment

Areas for Improvement

- early referral to therapy services
- uptake of Parkinson's-specific CPD by clinicians and Parkinson's Nurse Specialists
- advice about Lasting Power of Attorney

- documenting advice on impact of known excessive daytime somnolence on driving
- Anticipatory Care Planning
- access to Clozapine

Occupational therapy

Evidence of good practice

- use of person-centred goal setting and other patient reported outcome measures
- induction and support strategies for new therapists within general competencies framework
- all services seeing patients in person, with phone and video follow-ups offered
- access to Parkinson's-specific CPD at least annually

Areas for improvement

- earlier service referral during diagnosis stage
- waiting times from referral to first session
- improved awareness of referrers of OT roles
- use of appropriate standardised assessments
- Parkinson's-specific induction for new therapists

Physiotherapy

Evidence of good practice

- exercise advice offered
- physiotherapists are members of a Parkinson's specialist MDT
- individuals being seen by specialised Parkinson's services
- provision of information about non-NHS external services

Areas for improvement

- earlier service referral within 2 years of diagnosis
- use of Parkinson's-specific outcome measures
- use of evidence-based resources to guide practice
- access Parkinson's-specific CPD at least annually
- initial assessments carried out by qualified member of staff
- services offering integrated Parkinson's service (medical and therapy)

Speech and Language therapy

Evidence of good practice

- Parkinson's-specific induction training and support strategies
- increase in specialist SLT provision
- adoption of remote consultations
- swallowing and drooling assessment and management

Areas for improvement

- use of standardised assessments
- access to Lee Silverman Voice Treatment (LSVT)
- access to Expiratory Muscle Strength Training (EMST)
- documentation of on/off status
- Anticipatory Care Planning

PREM

Areas of satisfaction

- service overall felt to be "improving" or "staying the same, already good"
- concerns raised were dealt with, either with onward specialist referral or advice / medication
- advice regarding keeping active / exercise
- information regarding research participation
- access to physiotherapy between scheduled reviews

Areas of concern

- fewer individual service components ranked as excellent or good
- information at diagnosis
- discussions about balance, falls and osteoporosis
- advice regarding contacting the DVLA / car insurance company
- getting medication on time while an inpatient

For more detail on these key findings, and the recommended actions, please see the audit Summary Report. The complete data tables, details of the audit design and methods, participating services, and the audit and PREM questions can be found at parkinsons.org.uk/audit

The Parkinson's Excellence Network is the driving force for improving Parkinson's care, connecting and equipping professionals to provide the services people affected by the condition want to see.

The tools, education and data it provides are crucial for better services and professional development.

The Network links key professionals and people affected by Parkinson's, bringing new opportunities to learn from each other and work together for change.

parkinsons.org.uk/excellencenetwork

