

What is it?

GOV.UK Guidance - Psychotropic drugs and people with a learning disability or autism

Describes a system to track prescribing of antipsychotics, antidepressants and other psychotropics for people with learning disabilities, autism or both.

Guidance can be found here: <https://bit.ly/2JXKtAV>

CQC - Learning to do better when people die in hospital

A review of the first year of NHS trusts implementing the national guidance

In 2016, CQC looked into how acute, community and mental health trusts investigate and learn from deaths. This resulted in new national guidance. Here they report on their assessments of how NHS trusts are putting it into practice. Easy read information here: <https://bit.ly/2WlfGQs>

Children and Young People

Ambitious about Autism - Include Autism

Youth groups and extra-curricular activities are a very important part of young people's lives - helping them make new friends, grow in confidence and develop new skills. Yet sadly we know many young autistic people find it hard to attend youth groups due to misunderstanding of autism and problems with accessibility.

To tackle this problem, Ambitious about Autism's Youth Patrons have created Include Autism - the toolkit for developing autism inclusive youth groups. This practical guide contains information, advice and resources to increase understanding of autism and encourage simple changes that will make youth groups more autism-friendly places. To find out more click here:

<https://bit.ly/2LjUIAe>

Resources and other bulletins

Stay Up Late – Read about The (un)Ordinary Conference that took place Streatham on 26th March

<https://stayuplate.org/the-unordinary-conference/>

Mental capacity bill amendment reaches final stages - and concerns remain

Over 100 organisations have written to the Ministers responsible for the legislation calling for a pause in proceedings and proper consultation and discussion with the sector. Unprecedented numbers of human rights and social care professionals argue that the Bill must not become law in its current form.

Following consideration in the House of Commons, the current stage of the Bill – at "ping pong" – will see the House of Lords debate the Bill in its near final form on 24 April.

, include:

- People's individual views and wishes now not being given sufficient weight under the new proposals.
- Care home managers too closely involved in the deprivation of liberty process.
- Mental capacity bill amendment reaches final stages - and concerns remain
- Insufficient safeguards being fully enshrined in law, including the importance of appropriate and early access to information and advocacy.
- The complexity of the new process and the loss of best interest assessor expertise.
- The time period for the reviews of someone's liberty has been extended from one to three years
- The financial costs of implementing the new system will fall to care providers in a sector that is already at full stretch following successive funding cuts.
- Too much weight being given to a code of practice which sits outside of the proposed legislation.

Read more here: <https://bit.ly/2GSbEsi>

Webinars, workshops and training

Autistic UK is proud to present this year's conference, The Future is Gold. 27th May 2019

This is our 10th anniversary of autistic-led advocacy and we are eager to see what the next 10 years will hold! Join us on Bank Holiday Monday, 27 May from 09:00 to 17:00 to hear our incredible line up of speakers, video hellos from international activists, a discussion panel on the future of activism and how you can make a difference, a sneak peek trailer of a feature-length documentary, a VR room, and more!

Find out more here: <https://autisticuk.org/events/the-future-is-gold-2019/>

SCIE National Co-production Week Sharing Power: 1-5 July 2019

For the fourth year running, Co-production Week will celebrate the benefits of co-production, share good practice and highlight the contribution of people who use services and carers to developing better public services.

Co-production is about working in equal partnership with people using services, carers, families and citizens. Co-production offers the chance to transform social care and health provision to a model that offers people real choice and control. For more information about co-production week click here:

<https://bit.ly/2Vd6PDJ>

Blogs

My sister has Fragile X syndrome. The barriers to an ordinary life are institutional.

What makes an "ordinary life" for the UK's 1.5 million learning disabled people? Having relationships, choosing where to live or when to go out? Things that most of us take for granted are often denied to people like my sister Raana, who has Fragile X syndrome, the most common inherited cause of learning disability.

Raana, who lives near Bournemouth in supported housing, recently made a short film about doing things she once found too difficult, such as catching a bus, doing her own shopping, eating out and paying the bill.

Read the blog here: <https://bit.ly/2XDZgmk>