

LIVED EXPERIENCE ADVISORY FORUM

Speaking from experience: Patients and carers influencing research

Sussex Partnership NHS Foundation Trust is committed to ensuring that patient and public involvement (PPI) is embedded in all strands of research. This covers psychosis, mood & anxiety, brain & body, children & young people, learning disability, personality & complex care, dementia and approaches to involvement and recovery.

The Research & Development department involves people with lived experience of mental health issues across the entire research cycle from design and delivery to translation. We work with researchers to support and develop involvement in their studies and we train involvement consultants to contribute in a way that is active and meaningful.



At Sussex Partnership our patient and public involvement takes place through the organisation of LEAF (Lived Experience Advisory Forum).

LEAF is a group of carers and service users who work together to collaborate and consult on research. We are founded on a 'critical friendship' model with a shared goal to improve the quality of research and ensure the results translate into better care.

WHAT IS PATIENT AND PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT IN RESEARCH?

- Research that is done with or by the public and not to, about or for them
- Members of the public get actively involved in research, such as helping decide what is researched and how it should be conducted

Definition based on that given by 'INVOLVE' (2008)

WHY WE NEED IT IN RESEARCH

"No matter how complicated the research, or how brilliant the researcher, patients and the public always offer unique, invaluable insights. Their advice when designing, implementing and evaluating research invariably makes studies more effective, more credible and often more cost effective."

Professor Dame Sally Davies
Director General of Research and Development
Department of Health 2008

WE ARE AWARD-WINNING



We won a gold Sussex Partnership Positive Practice Award in 2017

In recognition of the work we do to involve patients in the design, delivery and translation of research.



Sam Robertson
Lead for Service User and Carer Involvement in Research



Laura Lea
Co-ordinator for Service User and Carer Involvement in Research



Julia Fountain
Co-ordinator for Service User and Carer Involvement in Research



Susie Goodbrand
Co-ordinator for Service User and Carer Involvement in Research

Contact us

If you are interested in becoming part of our lived experience involvement in research groups contact us at:
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