

Home Based Treatment Team 2010

EXECUTIVE CATCHMENT AREA	Galway, Mayo, Roscommon
HSE AREA	West
CATCHMENT AREA	Mayo
MENTAL HEALTH SERVICE	Mayo
NAME OF TEAM	Rehabilitation and Recovery
TYPE OF INSPECTION	Unannounced
DATE OF INSPECTION	25 February 2010

PROFILE OF SERVICE

The home based treatment service was part of the rehabilitation and recovery team and had commenced operation in January 2010. The service focused on individuals who had been using the Mental Health Services for a significant period of time.

PROFILE OF SERVICE USERS

The service had recently commenced and was working with a number of service users who had severe and enduring mental illnesses including schizophrenia, bipolar disorder and anxiety. Their ages ranged from 51 years to 78 years and they had attended the Mental Health Services for a significant period of time. They had recently been discharged from a day centre and the home based team were supporting this transition by helping them to remain living in the community and to link in with other community supports and activities.

CURRENT SERVICE PROVISION

The service operated Monday to Friday from 0900h to 1700h and the service users involved were reviewed mostly on a daily basis. At the time of Inspection, twelve service users were availing of the service, which was operated by two nursing staff. The team had regular telephone contact with carers. The service was using the Functional Analysis of Care Environment (FACE) assessment tool to develop individual care plans. The rehabilitation and recovery team met weekly and provided access to a range of therapeutic activities and interventions. At the time of the Inspection, the rehabilitation and recovery team were moving into new premises in the centre of Castlebar and the home based team were also located there. The focus of the service was to assist service users in daily living skills, to support them to move away from attending Mental Health Services and to reduce institutionalisation. Most of the contact with service users took place in the service user's own home.

GOVERNANCE

The service had policies relating to home visits, risk management, clinical files and note taking. All service users availing of the home based treatment service were under the care and treatment of the rehabilitation and recovery team and were likely to be using the service in the long-term. As the service had recently commenced, some specific guidelines around referral for access to home based treatment were not yet in place.

OVERALL CONCLUSIONS

This was an exciting development in the rehabilitation and recovery team which would develop in the future. The intensive level of involvement with service users in their own homes and social environment allowed for the individual tailoring of care and treatment plans.

RECOMMENDATIONS 2010

1. The service should ensure that staff are aware of and familiar with the Mental Health Commission's Codes of Practice relating to Admission, Transfers and Discharges and Working with People with Mental Illness and Intellectual Disability.