MEDIA RELEASE
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ECT service follows ‘excellence’ rating with national showcase

Leicestershire Partnership NHS Trust is to showcase innovations in electroconvulsive therapy at a Royal College of Psychiatrist national conference – just weeks after the College rated its service ‘excellent’ for the second time.

The ECT (electroconvulsive therapy) clinic provided by LPT’s specialist mental health acute recovery team has been re-accredited by the College and rated ‘excellent’ following an independent review.

Carried out through the Royal College of Psychiatrists’ Electroconvulsive Therapy Accreditation Service (ECTAS), it examined clinic facilities, staff knowledge, documentation and health records, and included interviews with staff, service users and carers.

This year the service, which is based at the Bradgate Unit on Leicester’s Glenfield Hospital site, met 100% of the stringent standards set as part of the three-year review.

Its success follows a programme of service improvements designed to further increase patient choice, increase efficiency and drive up the quality of care.

And on Wednesday 13 May, during National Mental Health Awareness Week, the specialist nurse-led ECT service, which provides around 1,000 individual treatments a year, will be showcased at the annual ECTAS national forum in Birmingham.

Service team leader Andy Thompson and deputy Emily Jarvis will present to delegates from across the country on new ways of working introduced by the LPT service over the last year.

Andy Thompson explained: “One of the cornerstones of the changes we introduced was bringing in a dedicated team of specialist theatre and recovery staff from UHL’s acute services at every ECT clinic.

“They carry out very thorough physical assessments to screen out any physical health risks before treatment and full physical health monitoring throughout the recovery period.

“Our specialist treatment team, which includes treatment nurses, operating practitioners and doctors, is able to focus more time on ensuring we are efficient...
and effective and most importantly service users receive a high quality of care and a
good patient experience. Central to this is the World Health Organisation

“We are working hard to demystify ECT which is an extremely effective treatment for
resistant depression and, with continued developments of safeguards and ECTAS
standards, extremely safe. It carries no more risk than a minor day-case operation”

Teresa Smith, divisional director of adult mental health and learning disability
services at LPT, said: “We are very proud of the acute nursing team and their
outstanding ECTAS rating reflects their continued work to further improve the quality
of patient care.”

- Accreditation by the Royal College of Psychiatrists provides assurance for
service users and their carers, staff, commissioners, regulators and the wider
public about the quality of the service.

NOTES TO EDITORS
1. Leicestershire Partnership NHS Trust (LPT) provides a range of health and wellbeing services
mainly for people living Leicester, Leicestershire and. Trust serves a population of one million, has a
budget in excess of £267 million and employs approximately 5,400 staff.
3. For more information visit www.leicspart.nhs.uk For further information contact: Sheila Ashton,
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