

Next steps for the evaluation of personal health budgets

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Roll-out of Personal Health Budgets in England

Following pilot programme and evaluation

April 2014 – People eligible for NHS CHC have the right to ask for a personal health budget

October 2014 – People eligible for NHS CHC have the right to have a personal health budget

2015 onwards – PHBs are being rolled out for other people with long-term health conditions

What next for the evaluation of personal health budgets?

Continued impact of personal health budgets

Department of Health-funded study (April 2014-March 2016)

Over-arching aim: To address the affordability of personal health budgets within the system and the scale of personalisation following the pilot programme and evaluation

Key themes

- Changes in commissioning patterns
- Health and social care integration
- Market development
- Continued impact of PHBs on quality of life, service experience and secondary care service use

Research Team

PSSRU (University of Kent)

Julien Forder – Director of PSSRU

Karen Jones – Senior Research Fellow

James Caiels – Research Fellow

Elizabeth Welch – Research Officer

Diane Fox – Research Officer

Design

Recruitment

1. The original 20 in-depth evaluation sites – PHB pilot programme and evaluation
2. Participants from the national evaluation of the personal health budget pilot programme (both PHB and control groups)

Two work packages

1. The commissioner and provider landscape
2. Patient empowerment

Work package 1

Commissioner and provider landscape

Research questions

1. What effects do the changes in the system have on commissioners' and providers' behaviour?
 - Degree to which there has been a move away from block contracts
 - Changes in size of personal health budgets
 - Degree to which markets have developed
 - Degree to which providers find it easy to meet personalised packages
2. To what extent are providers using their freedom, and introducing innovation?
3. To what degree are personal health budgets providing a more holistic package of care by integrating health and social care needs?

Work package 1

Data collection and analysis

Qualitative data collection

Telephone interviews with:

1. PHB leads:
2. Commissioners:
3. Service providers

Collect current PHB support plans from a sub-sample of original PHBE participants

Explore PHB support plans

1. Original PHB plans from national evaluation
2. Current PHB support plans

Quantitative data collection

Web-based questionnaire (service providers to complete)

Work package 2

Patient empowerment

Specific aims

1. The long-term changes in commissioning patterns associated with personal health budgets.
2. To explore the extent to which people with personal health budgets are moving away from conventional services.
3. Whether personal health budgets continue to have an impact on service experience, quality of life and secondary care service use compared to conventional service delivery.

Work package 2

Data collection and analysis

1. Collect current support/care plans from a sub-sample of original PHBE participants
2. Analysis of original and current PHB support/care plans
3. Collect secondary care service use information from the Hospital Episodes Statistics database
4. Interview ten personal health budget holders
5. Outcome information from a postal questionnaire completed by participants

Research Outputs

1. Interim report to Department of Health: [September 2014](#)
2. Draft final report to Department of Health: [February 2016](#)
3. Final report to Department of Health: [March 2016](#)

[Any questions?](#)

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