

# Acute Admissions Pathway for Mental Health



## Facts and figures:

The Acute Admissions Pathway has successfully reduced the number of patients sent out of county for acute inpatient treatment.

	Number of patients sent out of county	Number of nights spent out of county
2014/15	33	238
2016/17	5	16

Cumbria Partnership NHS Foundation Trust provide community, specialist, children's and mental health services across the county of Cumbria, including acute inpatient units at Carlisle, Barrow, Whitehaven and Kendal. Fewer mental health service users are now being sent out of county to receive acute inpatient care, thanks to improvements that have been made to the way patients are assessed and admitted to acute inpatient wards over the past 4 years.

**The process – called the Acute Admissions Pathway - is now much more robust and provides better support for patients and staff.**

The ongoing admission process includes a daily meeting of all clinicians and professionals involved in patient care to discuss each patient and their needs. This allows any gaps in their care plan to be addressed that day – including physical and mental health checks, housing needs and pharmacy needs. This helps ensure that patients receive the appropriate support from the right people at the right time. It also means that discharges are not delayed because the patient is waiting for an assessment in any area.

By changing the way we work and streamlining our processes, we can ensure service users get the care they need without spending additional time in an inpatient unit. It means more service users are receiving treatment closer to home, near to their families, and benefiting from improved review meetings, one to one consultations and more time spent with healthcare staff.

## Awards:

The success of the Acute Admissions Pathway has been recognised at a national level, with the process being shortlisted for prestigious Health Service Journal Award for two years running – in 2016 and 2017.



For more details, email [communications.helpdesk@cumbria.nhs.uk](mailto:communications.helpdesk@cumbria.nhs.uk)

**Celebrating 70 Years of Progress in Mental Health across the North of England**