Aims

- To enhance the patient experience and outcomes in a positive way for those who access Emergency Departments (ED’s) and minor injuries units presenting with Mental Health, problematic alcohol or drug use or some form of psychological or emotional distress.

- To ensure consistency in approach across ED’s & Minor Injury Unit’s in NHS GG&C.

- To develop a training package for staff working in ED’s and Minor Injuries units in the GG&C board area which has been aligned with the NHS Health Scotland approved suicide prevention training as prescribed by the Scottish Government.

- To support the delivery of a standard process across the NHS GG&C board area for the risk assessment and triage of people presenting with a mental health component to their presentation at ED’s or Minor Injuries Units.

Method

This Emergency Departments’ Mental Health Triage and Risk Assessment Tool (MHTRAT) has been jointly developed by Acute, Mental Health & Liaison services as a guide to managing patients presenting to the Emergency Department with a mental health component to their presentation, to support staff in identifying those at higher risk, and prioritising their care. It draws on the published research into the development of similar assessment tools in Australia and the UK, and on NICE Guideline 16; “Self-harm”, which considers the short-term care of patients who have self-harmed.

Across NHS GG&C we have developed a training for trainers model and utilised Mental Health nurses to deliver training to ED’s and Minor Injuries staff this included the development of a rolling programme of training.

We developed a robust governance framework to surround all aspect of the training from the quality of training to the administration and effectiveness of the training.

The use of the MHTRAT mandatory for ED staff when assessing people who may have a Mental Health component to their presentation.

We sought approval from Health Scotland with regards to the training and satisfied them in terms of its relationship to ASIST training.

We identified link nurses in each of our 4 ED’s in NHS GG&C.

Outcomes/ Results

An evaluation of the MHTRAT and its associated training package shows an increased confidence and Knowledge of Mental Health assessment in ED staff particularly around Suicide risk awareness and assessment. This is detailed in the C4 Mental Health in Emergency Medicine report.

Acknowledgement

This poster has been developed on behalf of The Mental Health and Acute Interface Group (MHAIG).

If you have any questions please contact either; Dr Keith McKillop - K.McKillop@NHS.net or Paul Devlin – Paul.Devlin@GGC.Scot.NHS.UK