



How TPP SystemOne Prison is supporting mental health services at HMP Onley

TPP SystemOne Prison is having a positive impact on the provision of mental health services to prisoners, say the mental health team at HMP Onley.

The system was introduced into the Category C training prison in Willoughby, near Rugby, in 2007. The healthcare wing in the prison provides ongoing care and support to some 710 prisoners and the mental health unit provides primary and enduring mental healthcare services, such as treatments for anxiety, depression and bipolar disorder.



HMP Onley

The mental health team manages a large caseload of patients. Information on the team's current caseload is held on the 'mental health tree', an area within TPP SystemOne Prison, and this enables the team to look up information on a mental health patient, identify their notes and see which team member the prisoner is working with.

TPP SystemOne Prison has enabled continuity of care as the team can follow-up with any of the prisoners that have had recent mental health issues as soon as they arrive at the prison. Wendy Clarke, lead practitioner for segregation and reception, explains: "When any new prisoner arrives here, we check over their notes on the system to see if they have had recent mental health issues. This gives us the opportunity to contact the prisoner and let them know about the mental health services we can offer and how to get in contact with us.

"If a prisoner doesn't want any help from us at that stage, we simply put a note on TPP SystemOne Prison so that if they seek assistance in the future or are referred, the same clinician can go out and see them."

Sharon Nettle, lead nurse practitioner, has seen the benefits of using TPP SystemOne Prison. As it is integrated with the wider healthcare team it ensures that mental health services are offered to the prisoners that need it. "I feel that TPP SystemOne Prison has allowed us to have a lot more information to hand about the patients we treat," she says. "And having one record per patient means there is less chance of prisoners with known mental health issues falling through the net due to records being lost or misplaced in transfer."



TPP SystemOne Prison has proven beneficial to those healthcare staff who specialise in a particular area to get a clearer picture of their patients' wider healthcare needs and treatment.

Lucy Harding, speech and language therapist, says: "My role involves helping prisoners that struggle with basic language skills. As I only work with patients one day a week, TPP SystemOne Prison allows me to have an electronic dialogue with other clinicians. I can read the patients notes that are on the system and I am then able to add my own notes, highlighting any difficulties they may be having around words and sounds and giving advice on the kind of sentence structures they may find easier to understand."

Brenda Wilson, head of healthcare, agrees that the introduction of TPP SystemOne Prison has made it easier for clinicians to share vital information about patients. "As the system saves the medical notes in chronological order, a clinician looking at a record can see information on each interaction the patient has had with the healthcare team. Having this added knowledge helps our clinicians make a more informed choice on the course of treatment for the patient."

More than 70 prisoners a week are also seen at the mental health group sessions that are held at the prison. These cover a range of services such as alcohol awareness, anxiety management and holistic wellbeing. Mental health nurse Sue Davis says: "TPP SystemOne Prison helps to formulate my group lists and makes it easier to inform the prisoners when and where to attend the clinic.

"Each clinic has different criteria for referral so, by using TPP SystemOne Prison, I can check over patients' records to see if the clinic will be beneficial and appropriate to them. A good example of this would be the sleep clinic; this is aimed at patients that are trying to reduce the amount of sleep medication they are taking, so would not be appropriate for everyone."

TPP SystemOne Prison is currently being introduced in prisons across England as part of a national roll-out. "The system has become the norm for us here at HMP Onley," says Sue. "The system is easy to navigate and as we all use different functions within the system, we are able to help each other complete tasks that we might not carry out every day but other clinicians do."

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