

Welcome

What is DIAMONDS?

DIAMONDS stands for
Diabetes and Mental Illness

– Improving **Outcomes and Services**.

It is a programme of research that will increase understanding about the problems faced by people experiencing severe mental illness (SMI) and diabetes. Our aim is to find ways to support people with SMI to manage their diabetes better and to improve health services for this group.

Why is DIAMONDS important?

People with severe mental illness have poorer physical health than the general population, contributing to a lower life expectancy of around 15 years.

Higher prevalence of diabetes and poor diabetes control are partly responsible for this. Yet little is known about how to tackle this problem and about the needs for care and support in this population.

Who is involved in DIAMONDS?

DIAMONDS is led by Dr Najma Siddiqi and is a partnership between Bradford District Care Trust, the Universities of York and Leeds, and Leeds and York Partnership NHS Foundation Trust.

DIAMONDS has a PPI panel of service users and carers, and is supported by other collaborators such as clinical commissioners, academics from other Universities, and Diabetes UK.

Details of the team can be found at www.diamonds.nihr.ac.uk/meet-the-team



What research is currently underway?

We are currently reviewing published research to determine what interventions work to improve diabetes outcomes for people with SMI. We are also looking at routinely collected information in General Practice and hospital health records to understand more about the care and health outcomes for people with SMI and diabetes.

We plan to carry out other studies as well, such as examining national survey data to better understand the patient experience of diabetes care in SMI; developing tailored diabetes self-management education; and investigating the use of technology to improve medication adherence.

How can I get involved?

We are keen to identify stakeholders from the NHS, the third sector, and industry who may be involved in supporting people with diabetes and / or severe mental illness, or in commissioning services. Please register your interest with us – as a DIAMONDS stakeholder you will receive our quarterly newsletter and other important updates.

Where can I get more information about DIAMONDS?

Please contact Jo Taylor at jo.taylor@york.ac.uk or on 01904 321679

Visit our website – www.diamonds.nihr.ac.uk

Or follow us on Twitter @DIAMONDS_YH