Methods This report brings together information from four sources, all referencing the standards defined by Junior MARSIPAN:

1. Audit of 12 admissions to Hospital A, assessing quality of medical care
2. Audit of 4 simultaneous admissions to Hospital B, considering pragmatic aspects of care
3. Review of a particularly challenging case admitted to Hospital A
4. Deanery-wide trainee survey (22 responses, ST4–8)

Results

1. At least half of young people displayed high risk clinical features, but assessment was frequently incomplete. Postural observations were rarely recorded. BMI was only documented in 17%. Hydration status was considered in 8%. However, most patients had an ECG, and monitoring for refeeding syndrome was adequate.
2. All four young people displayed multiple high risk medical features. Despite all experiencing symptoms for over 9 months, each was known to CAMHS for less than 2 months. Limited confidence in managing these patients was acknowledged amongst both medical and nursing staff. Particular challenges included adequate supervision, lack of specialist dietetic advice, and communication between paediatric and CAMHS teams.
3. This case involved a teenage girl admitted for nasogastric refeeding. Compliance was limited from the outset. Despite sedation, full time specialist nursing support and frequent restraint, feeds could not be safely administered and the condition deteriorated significantly. A specialist bed only became available after a 13 day admission.
4. Despite three-quarters having encountered at least one young person with an eating disorder in the last 2 years, only one in five had received any formal training. 82% were unaware of Junior MARSIPAN. Red flag features were not consistently recognised. However, all could give a basic description of refeeding syndrome. Challenges experienced included adequate nursing supervision, and multidisciplinary team working.

Conclusions Together these reviews highlight the need for improved education amongst paediatricians, including signposting to Junior MARSIPAN. The challenges of effective multi-disciplinary working are described in all. Improved education within schools and primary care is also suggested, facilitating earlier recognition and referral.

Aims To develop a reliable, reproducible method to identify young people of transition age with complex neurodisability

Method Lists of young people aged 14 or over from community physiotherapy, special school, specialist and palliative care clinics were merged. Antenatal mothers, patients who had not attended in the last two years or who had died were removed. The cohort was validated by community children’s nursing teams.

Patients were identified using the criteria:
- Severe or profound and multiple learning disability
- 3 or more specialist services
- Technology dependent
- Life threatening or life limiting condition
- Gross motor function measure 4 or 5
- Oxygen dependent

Results 56 young people were identified. Accurate information on learning disability, physical disability, technology dependence and oxygen use was inconsistently recorded in clinic letters. The majority of young people aged 18 or over but none aged under 16 had evidence of transition discussions. Several young people had clinic documentation indicating professional reluctance to transition to adults because of a lack of appropriate services in the adult sector or a specific application to allow the young person to continue to access childrens services as there was no appropriate service in the adult sector.

20 (36%) were young people aged 18 years or older who were “stuck” or “delayed” in children’s services due to a lack of suitable target services in the adult sector. Approximately half of this group were oxygen dependent.

Conclusion Young people of transition age with complex neurodisability can be identified from routine hospital data. However the required information is not consistently recorded in any one place and the absence of information cannot be equated with the absence of need.

Transition to adult services for this cohort of patients is only being actively considered when the young person is 17 or 18 in contrast to other patients where a recognised transition pathway is in place (e.g. neuromuscular patients) where there was clear evidence of transition discussions from age 14.

The ‘Saving Mothers’ Lives’ report found that between 2006–8 ectopic pregnancies accounted for over 1% of pregnancies in the UK, and 6% of maternal deaths. The accident and emergency (A&E) department is the first port of call for many women with symptoms of abdominal pain, collapse or vaginal bleeding. NICE recommends assessment of any women of a reproductive age must include consideration as to whether symptoms are due to an ectopic pregnancy. We performed a six-month retrospective review of adolescents attending the A&E department with abdominal pain and examined factors influencing sexual history taking and urine pregnancy testing.

From April to September 2014, A&E notes of all female patients aged 13–16 years old presenting with abdominal pain were collated and screened using the computer system Symphony. Fifty patients fitted the selection criteria. The assessing doctor’s department and grade was noted and information