Understanding Young People with Diabetes: Using Experience Based Co-Design to Provide a Patient-Centred Diabetes Transition Service

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Purpose To use experience based co-design to improve the Diabetes Transition Service.

Methods Young people with diabetes (type 1 and 2) managed by a district general Paediatric Diabetes Team, were invited to attend a focus group. The focus group, held in a local café, afterschool, was facilitated by 2 members of the Paediatric Diabetes team and the Diabetes Psychologist. A graphic designer attended to support the young people to visually explore and communicate their experiences and ideas.

Results 5 young people attended the group, ages 15–17 years. Each attendee was invited to tell their diabetes story, followed by facilitated individual and group discussions about the transition service and health and social wellbeing of young people in relation to diabetes. Recurrent themes that emerged included: promotion of independence, consistency of care, access to information and support via email and the internet, and the desire for peer-support opportunities.

Challenges in administration at the time of transition was highlighted to promote self-advocacy. The attendees strongly preferred physicians to be direct in their communication styles and to be seen individually by each member of the diabetes multidisciplinary team. They emphasised the need for after-school appointments and agreed that the hospital was a convenient location. The attendees were all keen on receiving information about diabetes and driving, alcohol, drugs, exam stress, contraception and pregnancy, some indicating a preference for written information (leaflets/website links) and others face to face discussions.

All attendees identified a strong desire for the team to facilitate email contact and social events with others transitioning and those who have transitioned. 100% of the young people said that they would attend another focus group.

Conclusion This focus group wants a diabetes transition service that promotes self-advocacy and independence, allows them to see the same consultant who communicates openly and directly, have access to information about how diabetes affects issues facing young people, and a service that provides them with ongoing peer-support.

Experience based co-design can ensure that diabetes transition services provide young people with a patient-centred service, that promotes ongoing health and social wellbeing well into adulthood.

G14(P) Abstract Withdrawn

G15(P) Youth Perspective on the ‘Sexuality Education: Lessons Learned and Future Developments in the WHO European Region’ Conference 2017

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Purpose Comprehensive sex education is a successful intervention approach to improving the mental and physical health of children, and is a crucial factor in developing the ability of young people to exercise informed autonomy over their sexual and reproductive rights and wellbeing. It is also recognised as a safeguarding factor against child sexual exploitation. As a member of the Sheffield branch of the sex education charity Sexplosion, and the FPA Youth Council, I was invited to join a youth delegation at the Sexuality Education conference to share a youth perspective on past successes and failures in the WHO European Region.

Methods Data was collected from research by WHO, and the United Nations Populations Fund amongst others, and qualitative information gathered through focus groups and fishbowl discussions with international delegates.

Results Country representatives raised challenges such as misconceptions about sexuality education and a perceived drop in moral standards, questioning of the role of the school vs. parental education, political and religious resistance, and the feasibility of sustainable programmes. Presented were positive examples of primary school age targeted sex education programmes, and the use of technology to provide information to younger audiences. The youth delegation were given a chance to feed back their perspective on national and local education and health initiatives. They noted the use of ‘jargon’ and inaccessible language in education and services. The lack of representation from central Asia and other gender