Early Informatics into Care (EPICare)
Information Pack

The EPICare URL for BWC is: **early-informatics.bwc.nhs.uk**

What is EPICare?

EPICare is NIHR funded, as a part of the wider Midlands Mental health Mission. The components of EPICare are:

- **EPICare Dashboard:** A trust-level dashboard for viewing participant data or clinician caseload
- **EPICare Clinical Decision Support System (CDSS):** A trust-level system of local indicators related to caseload that highlights when a PROM is due to be collected or when NICE and NCAP standards are not being met
- **EPICare National Registry:** National digital psychosis registry containing prospectively collected, standardised, pseudonymised data pooled from all EPICare Trusts.

What is the rationale behind EPICare?

Although Early Intervention in Psychosis (EIP) services are nationally mandated to provide multidisciplinary care to people experiencing first-episode psychosis, only 30-40% of people experiencing psychotic disorders make a full recovery, with wide individual and regional variations in care offered and received.

What are the aims of EPICare?

To improve national, local, and individual clinical decision-making and promote more equitable, timely delivery of evidence-based interventions to transform patient outcomes and reduce population-level disparities in care.
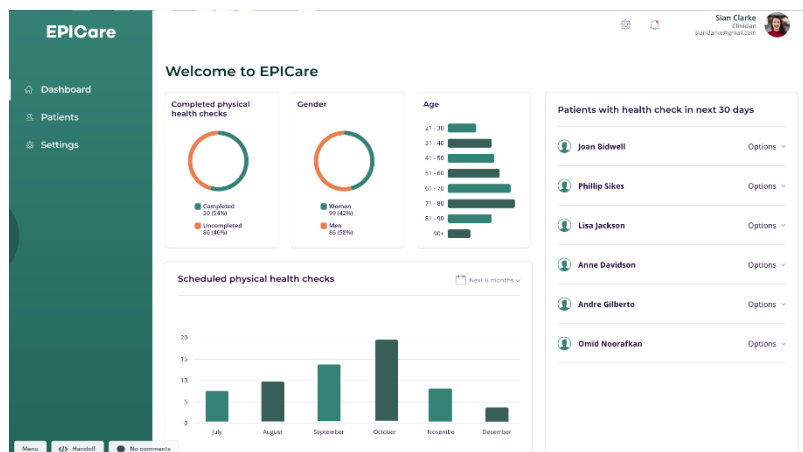
How do I access the EPICare Dashboard?

Using the URL at BWC: early-informatics.bwc.nhs.uk

You will be able to log in using your usual username and password.

In the dashboard you will see your caseload and be able to view and review when measures are due or when NCAP audit standards are or aren't being met.

What will EPICare look like?

Here is the current [Dashboard Prototype](.).

Who will be involved in EPICare?

All service users, 14-65 years, receiving treatment for first-episode psychosis (FEP) in EIP services. The first site to open will be Birmingham Women's & Children's NHS Foundation Trust (soon to merge with Birmingham and Solihull Mental Health NHS Foundation Trust); with Nottinghamshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust, Cambridgeshire & Peterborough NHS Foundation Trust, North London NHS Foundation Trust and Greater Manchester Mental Health NHS Foundation Trust comprising of our 5 demonstrator Trusts during a three-year evaluation period; resulting in approximately 4,000 patients.

How will EPICare affect the clinical care I provide?

You will continue to use your Trust Electronic Health Record system as usual (e.g. RiO). From there you can launch the EPICare dashboard and view routine EIP data including patient demographics, data corresponding to the 8 NICE psychosis care standards, Clinician-reported outcome measures, Patient-reported outcome measures as indicated by NICE standards.

The only change to routine EIP care is the addition of the 'CGI-SCH' which is a clinician-reported measure, and the DSST which is a cognitive task to be completed by the patient.

What will onboarding patients look like?

You will first show them the onboarding video that will be available on the dashboard; the script for this has been co-designed with a Lived Experience Advisory Group (LEAG) based at the University of Birmingham.

What training will I receive?

The EPICare team have created a brief training plan comprising of a) a short introduction/orientation to EPICare, b) a walkthrough of the clinician dashboard, and 3) an introduction to the CGI-SCH scale.

These sessions will occur when EPICare is ready to 'Go Live'. We will do a 'main session' covering all the above with each EIP team in person prior to going live, ideally on the back of an MDT meeting; we'll do an additional 'top up' in person session with each EIP team. Once we go live, we can do 'engagement sessions' as needed and hold Q&A/troubleshooting free-form online sessions for people to 'drop in' and ask questions as they come up.

We will also make training materials available to clinicians via the EPICare website.

Why is EPICare important?

The EPICare registry and dashboard/CDSS will provide accurate and reliable longitudinal data on patient treatments and outcomes during EIP care.

The dashboard will provide clinicians with immediate information on their patients over time, including symptom tracking, and NICE quality standards that are due for review on patients.

EPICare will be instrumental in measuring and improving Trust fidelity to NICE quality standards for psychosis and identifying and reducing inequalities in offer or receipt of care by ethnicity, gender, age, or socioeconomic gradient.

EPICare will also estimate the real-world effectiveness of different treatments on PROMs and CROMs to understand what treatments work well to improve patient outcomes. EPICare will also deliver valid estimates of the need for treatment of psychotic disorders in EIP services, which will be essential for effective service commissioning and planning.

We will be in touch again with more information and training

EPICare Contact Details

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