

Supporting professional development in stroke care Training and education report 2019

1. Background

The development of local professionals involved with providing care and support to stroke survivors and their families is a priority for the network. The network's Training and Education Subgroup is drawn from a range of healthcare professionals from local inpatient and community stroke teams, with additional representation from local voluntary sector organisations and academics. It aims to:

- Scope and collate current training provision, identify training needs and gaps in provision
- Develop new and/or co-ordinate existing training opportunities/materials and disseminate locally
- Develop/promote training competencies for stroke care
- Work with other stakeholders to address NHS staff shortages in stroke
- Encourage sharing of best practice and peer support

The work is funded by the network with a budget of ~£20k per annum which covers venue hire, refreshments, printing etc if required, with support for events provided by the network's Administrator. Where possible, free venues are used and sponsorship sought to help meet costs.

The network's [website](#) has [pages](#) that signpost local and national training events and provide details of relevant courses as well as other online resources related to stroke care. There are also tailored online training packages for stroke, ambulance staff, A&E/ward staff and pharmacists available on a [Greater Manchester learning platform](#).

2. Key achievements

- Co-ordinated regional programme for new staff at a foundation level with **5 introductory training events** held across the year by **7 different stroke units** and attended by **105 delegates** (Table 1)
- Salford Royal hosted a **12 week foundation programme** that was made accessible to Greater Manchester stroke staff
- **17 training events** for experienced staff were attended by **770 delegates** with many more attending events hosted by our sister organisation the Greater Manchester Neuro-Rehabilitation Operational Delivery Network (Table 1)
- The advanced programme included: **4 x 1 day conferences** and **11 x 3 hour masterclasses** (Table 1)
- Local stroke professionals and our Network Co-ordinator continue teach on courses taught at local universities

3. Feedback from attendees

Most events are evaluated and the information gathered is used to inform future training sessions. As with previous years, the events were rated as excellent or good by **99%** of delegates. When asked how attending a network event helped their own practice or their team's, there were many examples of positive impacts:

"I have tried to change the orthoptic training a bit towards more practical things that staff can do if patients have a visual impairment. The HCAs especially fed back that this was very useful and off the back of this I am now part of the HCA training day highlighting the importance of considering vision in the care and safety of patients. It seems to be going down well."

“Myself and a colleague...attended the training provided by the ODN on vestibular rehabilitation. As this is quite a specialist area we found it very helpful indeed and the physio consultant who was presenting to be particularly insightful and encouraging! I feel more confident in recognising and further assessing vestibular symptoms and am due to feedback to the rest of our physio team with an IST in the next few months...what a fabulous free training session it was! Can we have more please ☺?”

Helen, Specialist Physiotherapist, Stockport Foundation NHS Trust

“I attended the ODN annual conference in March 2019 and I found it extremely useful in my role as lead community stroke rehab manager in North Cumbria. It was fantastic to hear the great work that has been done in your area, how you have great links with the Stroke Association and your commissioners and together how you have improved the services you offer your stroke population. I found it extremely inspiring and I travelled back to Cumbria and spread the word. Since then I have been in touch with a number of teams whose contact details I got from the event and we have been sharing good practice ideas. We are now looking at Greater Manchester’s model of delivering rehab and hoping to be able to replicate a similar model here in Cumbria this year...Thank you so much for inviting me to your annual conference and making me feel so welcome.”

Jo, ESSD Co-ordinator, North Cumbria Integrated Care NHS Foundation Trust

“I attended the stroke study day at Salford Royal. As a physiotherapist I found it very medical based rather than exercise or rehab, however, as a newly qualified I still took a lot of useful information from this. I found it useful to talk to other therapists and discuss ideas too. I was able to use the different topics to change my practice, however I think just the basic knowledge around diagnosis, imaging and medication made my work day much easier.”

Tom, Physiotherapist, Tameside & Glossop Integrated Care Trust

Table 1 - Greater Manchester stroke training programme 2019

Training event	Organiser	Date	Duration	Attendees
Continence masterclass	GMSODN	31/01/2019	3 hours	30
Rehabilitation Assistant#3	GMSODN	05/02/2019	3 hours	43
Salford Royal Stroke Study Day	Trust	07/02/2019	1 day	42
Fairfield General Introductory Study Day	Trust	13/02/2019	1 day	7
6 month review masterclass	GMSODN	28/02/2019	3 hours	31
MFT Introductory Study Day	Trust	01/03/2019	1 day	12
ODN Annual Conference	GMSODN	06/03/2019	1 day	159
Fatigue masterclass	GMSODN	12/04/2019	3 hours	31
Salford Royal Introductory Study Day	Trust	17/04/2019	1 day	23
Productive therapy event	GMSODN	01/05/2019	3 hours	18
Rehabilitation Assistant#4	GMSODN	04/06/2019	3 hours	25
Performance reporting in community	GMSODN	05/07/2019	3 hours	10
Salford Royal Introductory Study Day	Trust	17/07/2019	1 day	26
Continence masterclass	GMSODN	26/07/2019	3 hours	48
Fairfield General Introductory Study Day	Trust	04/09/2019	1 day	14
Life after stroke conference	GMSODN	18/09/2019	1 day	72
Salford Royal Stroke Foundation Programme	Trust	03/10/2019	12 weeks	20
Rehabilitation Assistant#5	GMSODN	05/10/2019	3 hours	26
Salford Royal Introductory Study Day	Trust	09/10/2019	1 day	14
Fairfield General World Stroke Day	Trust	25/10/2019	1 day	54
Salford Royal World Stroke Day	Trust	29/10/2019	1 day	100
6 month review masterclass	GMSODN	01/11/2019	3 hours	38
MFT Introductory Study Day	Trust	08/11/2019	1 day	9
Vestibular training	GMSODN	28/11/2019	3 hours	23