

Electroconvulsive Therapy (ECT) Nurse Audit – 3 years on

Katrina Lenzie-Smith

In 2005, an audit of ECT nurses found that 3 out of the 13 respondents had undergone formal ECT training even though, none of the DHBs had an overall ECT training plan. This audit found that most ECT nurses were employed at Staff Nurse level. Most reported skills that reflected their scope of practice.

10 were Staff Nurses

1 was a Level IV – Expert

Involvement in research

Co-ordinating the ECT Service

Development of policy and procedure

Accurate data collection

Day-to-day running of the ECT Service

In 2008, the 2005 audit was repeated. All 19 respondents had undergone the formal ECT training at WDHB. The 2008 profile suggests that ECT nurses are predominately employed as Senior Nurses or performing at an expert level. This level of expertise is in sharp contrast to the findings of the 2005 audit. This is reflected in clinical practice activities and in the day-to-day role and responsibilities reported by the ECT Nurses in the 2008 audit.

7 were Senior Nurses

6 were Level IV – Expert

Auditing clinical practice

Confidently co-ordinating the ECT Service

Updating ECT policy and procedure

Comprehensive data collection

Competently managing day-to-day ECT

Development of their own ECT Service

Interdepartmental consultation and liaison

In the absence of medical staff responsible for holding the ECT Service together

Education of staff, students, consumers, family and whānau

2005

Acknowledgement

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2008

References

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