

BOB ICB BOARD MEETING

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| Title | Patient Story – We Can't Wait | | |
| Paper Date: | 29 February 2024 | Meeting Date: | 19 March 2024 |
| Purpose: | Information and Discussion | Agenda Item: | 06 |
| Author: | Nick Hanson-James, Quality Improvement Manager LD & Autism Programme; Niki Cartwright, Director of Vulnerable People's Services. | Exec Lead/ Senior Responsible Officer: | Rachael Corser, Chief Nursing Officer |

Executive Summary

My Life, My Choice is an Oxfordshire based Learning Disability self-advocacy organisation.

My Life My Choice will present a video called 'We Can't Wait'. This video serves to underline health inequalities experienced by people who have a learning disability.

Experts by Lived Experience will describe the difficulties of waiting for ongoing health care while living with the considerable challenges of already experiencing health inequalities because of living with a Learning Disability.

Link to video: [We Can't Wait - My Life My Choice](#)

Action Required

The Board are asked to:

- Listen to the voices of our service users and their lived experience.
- Reflect on the challenges faced by a group of people who are recognised as being subject to considerable health inequalities.
- Discuss how the ICB can work with system partners to minimise the challenges and reduce health inequalities for people with a Learning Disability.

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| Conflicts of Interest: | No conflict identified. |
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| Date/Name of Committee/ Meeting, Where Last Reviewed: | N/A |
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We Can't Wait

Context

1. The median age of death for people with learning disabilities is 60 for men and 59 for women. This is significantly less than the 83 for men and 86 for women in the general population: the difference in age of death between people with a learning disability and the general population is 23 years for men and 27 years for women, constituting a large health inequality for people with a learning disability.
2. People with a learning disability are four times more likely to die of a preventable or avoidable cause (e.g. aspiration pneumonia or constipation) than members of the general public.
3. Access barriers also prevent people with a learning disability from getting good quality healthcare. These include:
 - A lack of *accessible* transport links.
 - Patients not being identified as having a learning disability.
 - Staff having little understanding about learning disability.
 - Failure to recognise that a person with a learning disability is unwell.
 - Failure to make a correct diagnosis.
 - Anxiety or a lack of confidence for people with a learning disability.
 - Lack of joint working from different care providers.
 - Not enough involvement allowed from carers.
 - Inadequate aftercare or follow-up care.
4. The Oxfordshire self-advocacy organisation for people with a learning disability, **My Life My Choice** have made a video to highlight these challenges from a lived-experience perspective, and to raise awareness of their current campaign **We Can't Wait**.

We Can't Wait

5. The **We Can't Wait** campaign raises awareness about these existing difficulties for people with learning disabilities, with the additional challenges of increased post-pandemic waiting lists for services. The campaign is proposing that people with a learning disability should be prioritised on waiting lists to access treatment earlier and reduce health inequalities.
6. The campaign has already received the backing of Oxfordshire County Council (who funded the making of this video) several NHS providers and Learning Disability England. **My Life My Choice** are currently developing the campaign, along with several other advocacy groups, to be launched at national level.

Asks of the Board

- How can the ICB support this initiative as an element of wider work to reduce health inequalities for people with health inequalities in BOB?
- How can the ICB use this campaign to assist wider system working and co-production around all health inequalities in the ICB.