

For immediate release:

International Experts Launch a Foundational Set of Standards to Measure and Improve Psychotic Disorders Care Globally

BOSTON, Massachusetts, May 20, 2020: The International Consortium for Health Outcomes Measurement (ICHOM) announced the release of their Psychotic Disorders Standard Set today.

Leading mental health researchers, practitioners, and service user representatives from across Europe, the Americas, Asia, and Australia have joined forces to establish and launch the first international standard for measuring treatment outcomes for adults and adolescents with psychotic disorders aged 12 and above. This marks an important step towards promoting data quality and availability, and strengthening mental health care for this group.

This collaboration was facilitated by ICHOM and made possible by the generous contributions of NHS England and NHS Improvement; the NSW Agency for Clinical Innovation, Australia; Providence Health Care, USA; and Region Västra Götaland, Sweden.

The ICHOM Working Group

The Psychotic Disorders Standard Set (PSYSS) was developed by a dedicated ICHOM Working Group, comprised of 20 international experts and service user representatives, from ten different countries. A full list of organizations and representatives involved in this Working Group is available on ICHOM's website.

The Psychotic Disorders Standard Set

The PSYSS makes a set of recommendations for how treatment outcomes should be measured in clinical practice. It recommends measuring thirteen health outcomes across the four broad domains of Functioning, Symptoms, Recovery and Treatment, as a minimum, for adults and adolescents seeking mental health support for psychotic disorders. For this purpose, it recommends a set of nine patient- and clinician-reported outcome measures. To help ensure the Standard Set is relevant across different intervention contexts, the Working Group also recommends 15 risk adjustment factors, to be collected along with the outcomes, as well as timepoints for measurement.

Measuring, reporting, and comparing these outcomes can help identify best practices in psychotic disorder mental health care; ultimately generating value and better outcomes for service users. The selected outcome measures being available in several languages, the Standard Set is assured to have increased adoption across countries. An open-source Reference Guide is available that outlines recommendations for administering the set, time points, and a data dictionary for organisations to begin implementation.

Lived experience working group member, Elizabeth Anderson shares, "The development of the Standard Set for Psychosis is a huge leap forward for both patients and practitioners who now have a roadmap for what works best to treat and measure the changes in the overall state of the patient over time which can impact recovery. The respectful and inclusive working group have been a joy to work with. It has been an honor and a privilege to be part of this very important work."

Consumer Review Period

The Working Group's recommendations were validated during an Open Review period, in a large group of external stakeholders from around the world. In this review, 92% of lived experience experts from Australia, the United Kingdom and the United States reported that they would be happy for these outcome measures to be part of routine care and support. Over 70% of mental health practitioners, researchers, and policymakers surveyed across seven countries, approved of the outcomes and measures recommended. There was over 80% agreement with risk adjustment variables recommended by the Working Group.

The Future of PSYSS

From its inception, ICHOM has made Standard Sets open source. Now that this recommendation is finalised, the real work can begin, ushering in a new season for value based paediatric mental health care. It will be invaluable to learn from implementation pilots that may emerge across the globe and inform future iterations of this global set of standards. The Chair of the Working Group, says, "The ICHOM psychosis working group has achieved a milestone by identifying a set of patient reported outcomes. The range of outcomes reflect the broad impact of psychotic disorders. The working group achieved this with hard work and the support of ICHOM."

The standard set reference guides, flyers, data dictionaries and press releases have moved to ICHOM Connect and are still available free of charge. Please log in or register to gain access to unlimited ICHOM resources at a single click of a button. Visit connect.ichom.org today to access the materials for the Psychotic Disorders Standard Set.

More Information on The International Consortium for Health Outcomes Measurement:

ICHOM's mission is to unlock the potential of value-based health care by defining global standard sets of outcome measures that matter most to patients and driving adoption and reporting of these measures worldwide to create better value for all stakeholders. ICHOM was founded in 2012 by Professor Michael E. Porter of Harvard Business School, the Boston Consulting Group, and Karolinska Institute.

Visit www.ichom.org or contact info@ichom.org for more details.