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A systematic review and synthesis of outcome domains for use within forensic services for people with intellectual disabilities

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Abstract

Aims. In response to the large number of people with intellectual disabilities (IDs) and offending behaviour being treated in psychiatric hospitals, this study identified and developed the domains that should be used to measure treatment outcomes for this population using both a systematic review and consultation exercises.

Methods. A systematic search of relevant databases, and sixty studies met the eligibility criteria, and findings were synthesised using content analysis. The findings were refined within a consultation and consensus exercises with carers, service users, and experts. *Results*. The final framework encompassed three *a priori* superordinate domains (a) effectiveness, (b) patient safety, and (c) patient and carer experience. Within each of these, further sub-domains emerged from our systematic review and consultation exercises. These included severity of clinical symptoms, offending behaviours, reactive and restrictive interventions, quality of life and patient satisfaction.

Conclusions. To index recovery, services need to measure outcome using this framework.

Keywords. Forensic services, intellectual disabilities, neurodevelopmental disabilities, systematic review, outcomes, mental health.

A systematic review and synthesis of outcome domains for use within forensic services for people with intellectual disabilities

Following de-institutionalisation, most people with intellectual disabilities (IDs) live fairly independent lives in the community. There are 900,000 adults with IDs in England, and estimates suggest that only around 3035 (0.3 per cent) receive treatment in psychiatric hospital settings, with about half of them being in forensic hospitals (1) (2) (3). The health expenditure in this sector belies the low numbers and it is estimated at over 300 million pounds per annum (4) (5). However, there is limited empirical information on service-level outcome domains and indicators, which in turn limits the ability to measure the effectiveness of these services. This is of concern in a health climate focused on outcomes (6) and 'payment by results', but is even more relevant because of the recent government initiative to fundamentally transform care for people with IDs (7). While Fitzpatrick et al. (2010) (8) has conducted a systematic review of outcome measures used in generic forensic mental health services, and Gilbody et al. (2003) (9) completed a similar review of outcome studies in mental health, there has been no such work for forensic services providing care to people with IDs. Further, while there has been a marked focus on recovery from mental health services, there has been comparatively little focus on this construct and its measurement within psychiatric hospital settings for people with IDs, including forensic services. Recovery is often construed as "getting better" or "reducing symptoms", and within the context of inpatient services for people with IDs, where there is often a focus on personcentred support and normalisation, including living as independently as possible within the community, the concept remains unclear, but the issues are not dissimilar from the "recovery" debates within wider mental health services (10). However, recovery in the context of forensic services for people with IDs, while subjective, should nevertheless incorporate the Comprising, connectedness, Hope and optimism about the future, Identity,

meaning in life, and Empowerment (CHIME) framework (11), bearing in mind that some associated factors may be more proximal for this population (e.g. offending behaviours and stigma associated with disabilities).

In order to address these shortcomings, the current study had the single aim of identifying the domains that should be used to measure outcome from forensic services for people with IDs. Within the context of this project, outcome was defined as occurring at the level of the service as a whole, rather than individual outcomes associated with a specific treatment or intervention. In other words, we were primarily interested in outcomes that could index change over time across the entire range of interventions offered by a service, rather than outcome from a specific intervention (e.g. medication or psychological treatment), as this represents the real world of service delivery. Our aim was achieved within the context of two inter-related and iterative work streams: (a) undertaking a systematic review of studies that focused directly or indirectly on measuring outcomes from forensic services for people with IDs and synthesising the findings into an initial framework of outcome domains, and (b) taking our initial framework and refining further within the context of a consultation exercise with service users and carers, as well as a two-round Delphi exercise with experts.

Method

Systematic Review

An initial outcome framework was developed following a systematic review of the literature that focused on outcomes from forensic services for people with IDs. As a starting point, and following discussion amongst the research team, we initially envisaged outcomes

as falling into one of the three areas which were defined by the Department of Health (2010) (12) as representative of quality. These were: (a) effectiveness (e.g. the impact of generic treatment on health) (b) patient safety (e.g. untoward events as a result of treatment), and (c) patient experience of care (e.g. satisfaction).

Search strategy. The search strategy aimed to identify studies from a range of sources. Electronic databases searched on 1st June 2015 which included Medline, PsychInfo, Embase, Amed, HMIC, BNI and CINAHL. Search terms employed were based on those used for a previous Cochrane reviews, for intellectual disability (13) and forensic / offenders (14). The full search terms, including "explode" terms, keywords and text words are included within our supplementary material. The systematic review as registered in advance with PROSPERO (Registration Number: CRD42015016941).

In order to ensure that no relevant publications were missed, the grey literature (www.greyonline.eu) was also searched using the keywords. The ancestry method was used to find suitable studies within the references of eligible papers. The ancestry method means searching the reference lists of papers that met our eligibility criteria for any further papers that may have not been previously included. In addition, expert members of the project team were consulted in order to identify any key references not retrieved by the search strategy as well as in-press or unpublished articles.

Study Selection and Eligibility Criteria. Duplicate studies were removed, and titles and abstracts of articles were screened against the eligibility criteria independently by two members of the research team (CM and NG). Any disagreements were resolved by a third reviewer. Studies were included: (a) if they were published after 1980, as our initial searches

revealed there was little relevant literature available before 1980; we opted to use this cut-off date to reduce the number of returned ineligible papers, (b) in any language, as translations were obtained, (c) made use of any type of quantitative method, (d) involved adults within intellectual or autism spectrum disorders, (e) who were older than 18 years of age, and (e) had current or past use of forensic services for people with IDs, including community-based forensic services. Forensic services were defined according to bed categories defined by the Royal College of Psychiatrists (2013) (3) this means that we included papers where the participants were either living within a high, medium or low secure inpatient forensic health service, or a forensic rehabilitation service, or they were living in the community, but receiving a service from a community-based forensic service. Studies were excluded if they only evaluated the effects of a specific intervention or treatment programme (e.g. randomised control trial of a medication or psychological treatment group), rather than examining outcomes at a service-level.

Sixty studies met the inclusion criteria. None of the included studies were randomised controlled trials or meta-analyses. Twenty-eight studies were cohort outcome studies with follow-up from one to twenty years, and a further 32 were cross sectional studies which reported service-level outcome data at one point in time. Several of these studies made use of the same or overlapping samples of participants, but as we did not make use of meta-analytic methods, this did not erroneously affect precision. The large majority of the studies included were from the United Kingdom, with only two studies originating elsewhere. Most studies made use of samples of men, as only two studies included women. Figure 1 depicts a flowchart outlining the study selection process and the number of studies identified at each stage.

INSERT FIGURE 1 ABOUT HERE

Data Extraction and Analysis. Using a structured form, data were extracted from the included articles. Specifically, details regarding the sample, design, service type, methods, outcome domains and specific measures were obtained and coded. Content analysis was used to synthesise the outcome domains with reference to the three areas of quality as defined by the Department of Health (2010) (12), namely: (a) effectiveness, (b) patient safety, and (c) patient experience. These three areas were used as an *a priori* superordinate framework. A process of refining and grouping similar outcome sub-domains together was then undertaken by two researchers. This led to the construction of a 'framework' to describe the outcome domains extracted from the eligible studies. This process is best described as both directed and summative content analysis because the process started with an *a priori* theoretical stance pertaining to service quality, followed by both counting and coding the extracted data, which was then interpreted within the context of our *a priori* theoretical stance (15). This methodology was advantageous because it allowed us to identify key concepts, consider their context and underlying meaning within and across studies, develop coding variables, which were then refined into sub-domains.

Consultation Exercise

Consultation groups. Following the completion of our systematic review, and the development of our initial outcome framework, we undertook three consultation groups with service users, and one consultation group with carers to further consider and refine our outcome framework. Two of our service user groups took place within a high security hospital in England, while the remaining group took place within both a low and medium-secure hospital, also in England. Participants were approached by the researchers and the

purpose of the group was explained using information sheets. Participants who agreed to take part provided informed consent. However, we were advised by our associated Research Governance office, within our National Health Service (NHS) Trust, that and NHS Research Ethics opinion was not required for this project. Our groups included three women, one transgendered person, and 11 men. For our consultation group involving carers, we recruited four participants from an existing carer group within a secure hospital, while two participants were recruited who were not part of this group. The carer participants had family members detained within three different secure hospitals.

Analysis. A semi-structured topic guide was used which was structured around our initial outcome framework as a method to structure the conversations within our groups. Participants were encouraged to consider and discuss our initial framework, make modifications and choose outcomes they considered most important. The discussions were recorded and fully transcribed. The transcriptions were analysed using both directed and summative content analysis (15). As with our systematic review, this methodology allowed us to identify key concepts, context and meaning within transcripts, which were interpreted within our proposed framwork. Any changes, or newly identified outcome sub-domains were incorporated within our superordinate framework.

Delphi Exercise. The Delphi method (16) (17) is an iterative and multi-staged structured process which can be used develop group-consensus. We made use of a two-round online Delphi exercise with expert clinicians, researchers, and commissioners with experience of working within forensic services for people with IDs. Information about the study was advertised within the communication networks of existing stakeholder organisations within the United Kingdom (e.g. British Psychological Society). All participants were provided

with information to help them make a decision as to whether they wished to take part in the study. Participants were presented with the revised outcome framework developed following our service user and carer consultation exercise. They were then invited to rate the importance of each sub-domain within each of the three superordinate domains along a 5-point Likert scale, where 1 was "not important", and 5 was "extremely important". Participants were also asked for their expert opinion about each sub-domain and whether they thought any additional outcome measures needed to be added. Finally, participants were asked to indicate the five sub-domains they considered to be the most important measures of outcome.

Following the completion of the first round, participants were invited to consider the responses of the group and re-consider their previous ratings. Those sub-domains with a mean rating of four or more were taken through to the second round, and participants re-rated their importance along the same 5-point Likert scale. Participants were invited to select up to five sub-domains they perceived to be the most important. All participants were reminded that they did not have to change their original responses.

Participants. Seventeen participants took part in the first Delphi round, with 15 taking part in the second round. Nine participants were psychologists, seven were psychiatrists and one was a nurse. Participants were eligible to take part in the Delphi exercise if they were a clinician, researcher or commissioner with experience of working with forensic services for people with IDs. Two participants identified themselves as having responsibility for commissioning, while a further two identified themselves as having both clinical and academic responsibilities.

Results

Systematic Review

Using content analysis, data from eligible studies were extracted and categorised within the overarching superordinate domains (a) effectiveness, (b) patient safety, and (c) patient and carer experience. The complete list of identified subdomains that emerged following our analysis, along with the associated studies, is found in Table 1. For simplicity, studies have been divided into cohort, retrospective cohort, cross-sectional or case study designs. These findings were synthesised into our initial framework of outcomes which was taken forward and used within our consensus exercises (Table 2).

Effectiveness. Fifty-three studies were categorised as presenting data that involved at least a single outcome that attempted to measure effectiveness (Table 1). Our analysis led to 12 sub-domains within the effectiveness superordinate domain. These included subdomains such as length of stay, discharge outcome, clinical symptoms, treatment responsiveness, re-offending behaviours, and risk assessment.

As a sub-domain, length of stay was considered within 22 studies (Table 1), and varied between one to nine years, across included studies. However, it was recognised that as a measure of outcome, length of stay is problematic because: (a) it tended to be reported for only those who had actually been discharged, rather than the entire inpatient population, and (b) it is complicated because some service users move from one hospital to another, and data may not capture their entire length of stay across all hospitals. As another sub-domain, discharge outcome was considered within 16 studies (Table 1), and was defined as moving to an increasing or decreasing level of security within or across forensic hospitals, or discharge

to a community-based setting. Several of the included studies focused on delayed discharge (18) (19) (20) (21), and highlighted the difficulties with finding appropriate accommodation that mitigated risk.

Sixteen studies were judged to have included subdomains that were classified as falling within the clinical symptom sub-domain and these are detailed in Table 1. These included measures that made use of clinician or patient ratings of clinical symptomatology. However, only two studies reported change in clinical symptoms over time for a cohort of service users. A variety of tools were used to index change over time within this sub-domain, and included such measures as the Brief Symptom Inventory (23), Emotional Problem Scales (24), mini PAS-ADD (25)(26), HoNOS-Secure (27), and Clinical Global Impressions Scale (28). Treatment responsiveness was also coded as a sub-domain, but it was recognised that this is intertwined with the clinical symptom sub-domain; this was included as a separate sub-domain because it focused on whether a service user was likely to be responsive to treatment efforts, rather than the actual response.

Re-offending and risk were classed as separate sub-domains, with 18 and 12 studies considering variables within these sub-domains respectively (Table 1). Most commonly, studies tended to focus on re-offending using data derived from police or Ministry of Justice records. One study followed up re-offending at one, two and five-years post-discharge (29), while another set of studies using the same dataset reported on whether there was reoffending behaviour within the two years following discharge from hospital (30) (31). Another, based in Australia, considered arrest data, and "any criminal justice involvement" following discharge (32). A series of studies, based in the community, considered whether treatment within the context of a community-based forensic service led to a reduction in

offending behaviours (33) (34) (35). It is important to note that many people with IDs may not be formally dealt with by criminal justice agencies, and as a consequence, "formal" arrest and conviction data may not be a valid index of re-offending. Hence the category of "reoffending like behaviour" described in these studies (5) (26) (36) (37) (38) is one which is important because it is likely to have increased validity.

Risk also emerged as a likely sub-domain which could be used to index the effectiveness of forensic services for people with IDs. The vast majority of these studies reported on their use of structured clinical judgement tools, such as the HCR-20 (39), with several others considering actuarial risk assessment measures, such as the VRAG (40), RM-2000, or STATIC-99 (41). There was only a single study that considered how changes in scores on a risk assessment tool may relate to treatment outcome from forensic services for people with IDs (42).

Patient Safety. Eleven studies were categorised as presenting data that were considered to index outcome within the patient safety domain. Premature death was considered by one study, which differentiated between suicide and death associated with natural causes, while another study incorporated physical health, an important and relevant sub-domain considering the high rates of morbidity amongst forensic populations, including people with IDs.

The five sub-domains that emerged following our analysis also included those related to "reactive" or "restrictive" interventions such as the use of physical interventions and seclusion, PRN medication, or a change in observations levels. "Reactive" or "restrictive" interventions fall within the safety domain defined by the Department of Health (2014) (43). We have adopted the same approach here.

However, there is an overlap with the previously discussed effectiveness domain. "Reactive" or "restrictive" interventions can be construed as proxy variables for behaviour, and their use may correlate within increasing behaviour difficulties. However, they are not an intervention, and instead are reactive strategies taken to try to manage behaviour difficulties in the short term to ensure safety. However medical, psychological and social care interventions developed using a formulation that aim to rehabilitate and/or habilitate are not "reactive", and as such, these would fall within the effectiveness domain. This includes the psychological and social interventions, as well as medication prescribed to treat a diagnosed mental illness or distressing symptoms.

Patient Experience. Within this superordinate domain, eleven studies were categorised as capturing outcomes related to patient experience which were categorised into four subdomains. These were quality of life, therapeutic milieu, service user involvement, and service user satisfaction. Four studies included in the review measured quality of life using a number of ratings scales, such as the Quality of Life Questionnaire (44) or Life Experience Checklist (45), while three other studies focused on therapeutic milieu or ward atmosphere using either the Correctional Institutions Environment Scale (46) or the EssenCES Climate Evaluation Scale (47). Three studies focused on service user satisfaction in response to service development, and only a single study considered service user involvement as an indicator of outcome.

Consultation Exercise

Following the completion of our systematic review, and the development of our initial outcome framework (Table 2), this was presented to our consultation groups with service

users and carers. Revisions were made and the revised outcome framework was used within our Delphi exercise with experts. As with systematic review, we made use of the three superordinate domains (a) effectiveness, (b) patient safety, and (c) patient and carer experience as a framework for our analysis of the data generated from our consultation exercises.

Consultation Groups. *Effectiveness*. Several service users expressed the view that length of stay should be an important index of outcome; several said they were frustrated because they thought that length of stay was excessive for many service users. However, some carers expressed an alternative view, stating that a shorter length of stay may be problematic and lead to premature discharge. Service users from high security settings were of the opinion that discharge to medium-security was indicative of positive progress, while for those in medium and low security, discharge to a community-based service was seen as positive. Several carers further discussed how frequent moves between hospitals and wards can be particularly destabilising and may actually be associated with a negative outcome.

The appropriateness of a placement with respect to meeting treatment needs was discussed and considered important by many carers and service users. One stated, "I would much rather he be further away for eight to nine months [and get the right treatment] than be nearer for 18 months". Another commented, "it is very important for people to go to a place where they are happy, not just because it is closer to family".

Many commented further about the importance of much needed clinical interventions being available within each service, focusing specifically on psychological treatments and appropriate levels of meaningful activity. Carers spoke about wanting and needing

individually tailored care-pathways focusing on patient need rather than rigidly designed care-pathways that were not based upon a formulation of treatment needs. One said, "it has got to be individually led", and another commented, "he needed an individualised package of support which was right for him". Alongside this, carers also expressed the view that a similar individualised package of support needed to be made available to service users when discharged into the community, with one stating, "I worry about the fact that the service wasn't there in the community...there is so little support in the community".

Improvements in clinical symptoms and behaviour were recognised by both service users and carers as indicative of positive change. This included quantifiable changes in the frequency of incidents, including improvements in communication and a reduction in angry feelings. Different service users stated, "before I wouldn't engage in conversation and now I've learnt different strategies so I don't kick off so often", and "a reduction in incidents, reduction in restraints, using diversion more frequently, pre-empting incidents". Carers broadened this by commenting that some service users may not fully understand what they need to achieve to move forward, as there is often too much focus on measuring incidents within services. Some service users also shared this view and stated, "there is too much focus on incidents and not on understanding them...taking back to the beginning of the process as opposed to just dealing with what the consequences are". Carers considered that a family member may be able to make a more nuanced judgement about changes to clinical symptoms because of their long-standing knowledge of the service user. Both service users and carers commented on the importance of engagement with services and therapies as positive indicators of progress within this sub-domain.

Both service users and carers agreed that "staying safe" once discharged was a positive outcome, recognising that a reduction in risk was associated with a positive outcome, and several carers adopted the position of both carer and potential victim, expressing concern that their own safety could be compromised. One carer said, "if they said take him home I would be too scared".

Finally, within the effectiveness superordinate domain, and as an addition to our initial framework, adaptive functioning was considered by service users to be an important indicator of outcome. Service users talked positively about how they hoped that staying in hospital would bring about improvements in adaptive functioning, such as budgeting, occupational skills, and broader life skills. One said, "I have been given skills like cooking and cleaning...". However, several commented that staying in hospital may be associated with a loss of adaptive functioning, and several said they thought they have lost skills. For example, one said, "other hospitals let patients get real jobs. I want this to happen in this hospital", while another commented, "since we've been locked up here we don't get a chance to do that sort of thing [budgeting] so you don't know what to do when you get your money. One of our carer participants commented, "he used to be able to do things. He's lost those skills since he's been here".

Patient Safety. Service users spoke about how a reduction in aggression and the use of seclusion was a relevant outcome measure, as did a number of carers, while service users also spoke about being victimised by other service users in hospital. Some carers further considered that taking medication regularly was an indicator of positive outcome, and they also spoke about how a planned reduction in medication could also be a positive outcome.

For example, one commented, "if he could come off olanzapine, that would-be progress", while another stated, "a reduction in PRN medication and other medication is a goal".

Several carers and service users expressed concern about polypharmacy and side-effects, indicating that they felt this was a restrictive practice and alluding to the possibility that medication may be used to sedate in order to control behaviour; one commented, "he's never been on this amount of medication...he's so heavily dosed up...if he's been medicated to manage his behaviour, he's not learned how to manage his behaviour". One of the service users strengthened this view by commenting, "can you be careful about medication and patients being overdosed".

Patient and Carer Experience. This superordinate domain was modified as a consequence of our consultation groups in order to incorporate carer experience, alongside the experiences of service users. Carers spoke about whether they were satisfied with the level of care being afforded their family member and indicated that this was an important measure of outcome. Several spoke about being satisfied with the care being offered by the hospital. One stated, "it is a dream come true; the place where he is now, it's lovely...it's a dream for places like that to be about", while another commented, "the hospital are [sic] fantastic; the staff are fantastic and at long last somebody is realising the amount of problems he has got and that is one of the problems I had before". Others considered the importance of having a sense of security as a consequence of the quality and responsiveness of care being afforded their relative; one stated, "not having to be worried about him; if we died tomorrow, services would be there for him and do what was best for him without thinking of the cost". However, several carers spoke about having to fight or battle for service provision and felt that sometimes services did not listen or involve them appropriately in the care-pathway.

This was illustrated by the following, "there was nothing we could say which would be taken on board...it was very much 'no' this is what we think", and "I was asking for help in the community for years before my son was admitted to hospital".

Service users and carers considered the importance of quality of life as an indicator of positive outcome, and many spoke about having hopes for a job, relationships, involvement in their local communities, with well-integrated high quality support. Several carers emphasised the importance of high quality accommodation once a service user was discharged, and one commented, "he would be in accommodation that was specifically designed for people with autism, but he had sufficient support with people who actually understood his condition and were able to spot the warning signs so I didn't have to keep flagging them up". Another stated, "he needs an individual planned package with sufficient staff and appropriate training". Carers also commented that leaving hospital was not the end of service users' journeys, and spoke about the importance of continuing to monitor outcome and progress over the longer term, rather than view the "case as closed". Others spoke about valuing having inpatient services which could be used in times of crisis; this was illustrated by the following comment, "…for him to go back to a secure unit because he's a danger when he does deteriorate".

The availability and engagement with meaningful activity was seen as a potential indicator of positive outcome by both service users and carers. They spoke about having employment, and how increasing engagement in activities could be indicative of improvement. Carers spoke further about the importance of having meaningful activities available within hospital settings, and went on to further consider how developing and maintaining social networks are

further evidence of a positive outcome. This included developing and maintaining positive relationships with family, friends, pets, and further, included romantic relationships.

Changes to our initial outcome framework. A variety of changes to our initial outcome framework were made following the analysis of the data from our consultation groups. This included the incorporation of additional sub-domains or the modification of sub-domains. Specifically, we changed the label of the superordinate domain "patient experience" to "patient and carer experience". Considering the effectiveness superordinate domain, we made changes as follows: (a) treatment response and recovery and clinical symptom severity were modified to include carer ratings of clinical improvement, (b) acquiring adaptive skills was added as a new sub-domain, as was (c) engagement with therapies and services. Within the patient safety superordinate domain, we incorporated (a) safeguarding and victimisation, as a new sub-domain, while (b) overuse of medication was strengthened by making reference to unacceptable side-effects and patient satisfaction with prescribed medication. Finally, within the patient and carer experience superordinate domain, we incorporated sub-domains focusing on: (a) the carer experience incorporating both communication and involvement, (b) closeness to home area, and (c) the level of support and involvement within the community, as well as access to occupational activities. We also included that quality of life could be indexed by either clinicians or the service user.

Delphi Exercise. Following our revisions to the outcome framework, we completed a two-round Delphi exercise with experts in order to create consensus about the most important outcomes for forensic services for people with IDs. None of the sub-domains were rated as "not important" or "slightly important" by the participants. Five sub-domains did not reach consensus at the end of round one, and these were (a) length of stay, (b) security needs, (c)

adaptive functioning, (d) clinician-rated quality of life, (e) and closeness to home area. Participants were asked to rate five outcomes they thought were the most important and length of stay was included within these top five, and was therefore retained and taken through to round two.

Six sub-domains received the highest average ratings by experts at the end of round two where a clear consensus emerged. These were (a) discharge outcome, (b) treatment response/engagement, (c) premature death and suicide, (d) therapeutic milieu, (e) meaningful activity, and (f) re-offending/offending-like behaviour. However, when asked to indicate their top five sub-domains, participants chose sub-domains exclusively within the effectiveness superordinate domain, and these were (a) clinical symptom severity/treatment needs, (b) reoffending/offending-like behaviour, (c) treatment response/engagement/insight, (d) risk assessment measures, and (e) recovery measures/direction of care-pathway. Perhaps this is not unsurprising, considering that all of the participants had current or past clinical responsibility for service users within services.

Integrating the findings, the final most important sub-domains were (a) discharge outcome, (b) recovery measures/direction of care-pathway, (c) treatment response/engagement/insight, (d) clinical symptom severity, (e) re-offending/offending-like behaviour, (f) risk assessment, (g) premature death and suicide, (h) therapeutic milieu, and (i) access to work and meaningful activity. The findings from the Delphi exercise were considered and synthesised into our findings from the consensus exercises and our systematic review. This led to the emergence of a final outcome framework, and we have identified which aspect of the current project led to the generation of each sub-domain in Table 3.

During this process sub-domains were not removed, but additional sub-domains were added or combined into existing sub-domains that had emerged from our analysis.

Discussion

The aim of this project was to identify the domains that should be used to measure outcome for people with IDs and forensic needs. This is a topic relevant to all psychiatrists, particularly following the abuse scandal at a specialist intellectual disability hospital in England, Winterbourne View, and the resulting agenda to care for people with intellectual disabilities within "mainstream" psychiatric services (48). Similar issues are of concern around the world as many work toward the social inclusion of people within IDs within mainstream services within the health and social care sectors. Our aim was achieved by undertaking a systematic review coupled with a consultation exercise involving service users, carers and experts. The findings revealed a series of important sub-domains spread across three superordinate domains indicative of quality (12). These captured a range of clinical and patient safety variables, along with factors measuring both the service user and carer experience of care.

The largest outcome domain was effectiveness, which is not surprising. The sub-domains included were those that captured aspects of the care-pathway, along with a focus on clinical symptoms, recovery and a reduction in re-offending. Related variables, such as length of stay, discharge, and need for security were included, but these may not always directly correlate with clinical need. For example, it would be possible for someone who has received successful treatment to remain in hospital due to delayed discharge because of difficulties with the provision of community-based services to manage risk. Further, length of stay in

this context, as an indicator of outcome, should be neither too short or too long, and instead should be "just right" as it should be appropriate to meet the needs of individual patients, adding substantial complexity, especially when considered as a sole indicator of outcome. As such, focusing on multiple sub-domains allows for a richer and more thorough picture of the circumstances surrounding the care being offered to patients with forensic services.

However, consideration as to what "effective treatment" in this context actually looks like requires further exploration, both on an individual patient level and a wider service-level. Only one study (5) described the nature of the treatment programme that is delivered within the service. Effective treatment is likely to form a combination of appropriate medical, psychological and social intervention, informed by individual clinical formulations, but the availability is likely to vary across services, depending on patient needs. At present, in deciding whether a service is effective, regulatory and commissioning bodies rely on easily measurable process variables (eg: the existence or otherwise of various policies, the availability or otherwise of various treatments, etc) rather than paying attention to the more important question of whether any of this is making a difference to the outcome. This is clearly unsatisfactory. Likewise, there are no studies which have looked at the economic evaluation of treatments, a rather surprising finding considering the abundance of anecdote and opinion in this field about costs (5). Considering the future, the structure and form of "effective treatment" within forensic services should be clarified, and drawn from a robustevidence base, bearing in mind that there are very few clinical trials to identify the most effective intervention across the range of those that are available. As such, greater investment in research investigating the clinical effectiveness of forensic services for people with IDs is needed.

There are other subdomains clustered around safety and the patient/carer experience which we incorporated into our final framework. These are important indicators of the quality of forensic services, but may not always directly relate to clinical effectiveness. Nevertheless, helping to ensure that patients with IDs, detained in forensic services have a good quality life, including access to meaningful activity, is a core business of such services. Measuring sub-domains with the broader safety and patient/carer experience domain is clearly important, for all stakeholders, especially patients and their carers. The measurement strategy for these domains could be standardised nationally, bearing in mind that they may not correlate directly with clinical effectiveness.

Related to this, the addition of a series of consultation exercises, alongside our systematic review, adds a particular strength to our project. This helped to ensure that we adequately captured the views of all stakeholders and appropriately synthesised them into our final framework. It is important to note that while experts tended to focus on clinical outcomes, service users and carers tended to focus more upon the quality of service provision, and the experience of receiving a service, alongside clinical outcomes. As such, it became important to ensure that these findings formed part of our final outcome framework.

Contrasting our framework with that developed by Fitzpatrick et al (8), there are both similarities and differences. Fitzpatrick et al (8) grouped outcome measures across a variety of similar domains, such as recidivism, service outcomes, mental state, compliance, satisfaction, substance misuse, amongst others. They were able to successfully review a variety of specific outcome measures that would enable measurement across these domains, while in our study, there are relatively fewer instruments that have been standardized for use with people with intellectual disabilities across the subdomains we have included within our

framework. At the same time, there were some noted differences between our framework and that reported by Fitzpatrick et al (8). For example, substance misuse did not feature explicitly, but nevertheless is an issue for many with IDs, and would fall easily within our Incidents subdomain. At the same time, there were specific subdomains that we included which did not appear within the framework reported by Fitzpatrick et al (8), such as adaptive functioning, access to meaningful activity, as well as the use of restrictive practices, which while no doubt are all an issue for those with forensic mental health problems, are likely to be more salient with services for people with IDs."

Clinical Implications

The findings from the current project have direct relevance to recent government initiatives, including Building the Right Support (7) and the new National Service Model (49) that were developed and published in response to the institutional abuse that took place at Winterbourne View in England. For many years, there has been a focus upon ensuring that people with IDs are afforded good quality care within their own communities, rather than within hospital, and the abuse that occurred at Winterbourne View has reignited the drive to ensure that people with IDs are not unnecessarily kept in hospital and other restrictive environments, recognising at the same time, that some people with IDs do need appropriate hospital care from time to time, depending upon their needs. The new National Service Model incorporated hospital admission, which should be integrated within community-based teams, alongside active, clear and robust discharge planning. In order to achieve such, services need to be able to measure outcomes, and for those who are admitted to inpatient forensic services, including forensic rehabilitation services, our framework of outcomes should be used by hospitals to index change, as well as service quality. Further, our work has the potential to strengthen current initiatives, such as the Quality Network for Forensic

Services

(http://www.rcpsych.ac.uk/quality/quality,accreditationaudit/forensicmentalhealth/templateho mepage.aspx), when used within forensic services for people with IDs where this is a focus on ensuring practice standards are agreed and met.

Care and treatment reviews, a further initiative created by NHS England following Winterbourne View, involves reviewing the care within a hospital in order to make a judgement about whether an individual is receiving the right care within the right environment. Each review involves a service commissioner and at least two expert advisors, one being a carer or service user. For service users who are within inpatient forensic services, it would be valuable for care and treatment reviews to be structured around our outcome framework. This would help ensure that decisions about care are based upon the research evidence and based upon indicators that are considered to measure change appropriately, helping to ensure the process is robust. One of the further important findings from our work is that we have integrated the findings from the evidence base which was used as the springboard to develop our framework. While there are difficulties with many of the included studies, what was apparent was the absence of a focus on recovery and exploration of the subjective meaning of recovery in this context. Alongside this, many of the studies were small and very few longitudinal studies drawing on a well-developed outcomes framework have been completed, which is both clearly and sorely needed.

Limitations

All of these recommendations need to be balanced against several weaknesses associated with the current study. First, our findings from the systematic review are based upon the research evidence. Inherently, our findings from the systematic review are only as robust as

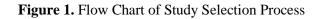
the quality of the research that was reviewed. The predominant issue with many of the studies that were included was that few were longitudinal studies measuring outcomes, demonstrating that these outcomes had validity and reliability as an outcome indictor. Related, because of the marked variation across studies in terms of methodology, it became impossible to find a suitably reliable and valid tool that would index quality in this context. Moreover, if we had been able to measure study quality, this would not have altered the weight put on one study as opposed to another, because the focus was on the domains and how those domains were measured.

While this is problematic, it is attenuated by the consultation exercises with service users, carers and experts. The service users included within our focus groups are vulnerable, detained under the Mental Health Act, and are often not given a voice. They directly contributed to the development of our outcomes, telling us what was important to them, as users of the services. Our findings from the consultation exercises were incorporated into our methods which helped to ensure that our findings were shaped carefully by those affected by our findings, which in turn, increased validity. The second weakness is that the findings from our consensus exercises are based upon the views of a group of individuals, and only four carers were included; our findings may have been enhanced with a larger number of carers, but the content had become repetitive suggesting we had reached content saturation. While we attempted to capture the views of a variety of services users, carers and experts, and it is certainly possible that had we asked a different group of service users, carers and experts, different issues may have emerged from our analysis. Third, as our study included participants from United Kingdom, there is a question as to whether the findings are generalisable to our healthcare systems in other countries. However, we would anticipate that the findings have implications within other countries offering similar services, and could

be used to inform further research within similar hospitals and services within other parts of the world.

Conclusion

Finally, and looking forward to the future, further work is needed to investigate the reliability and validity of our outcomes framework. This may lead to a reduction in the number of sub-domains found within our current outcomes framework which would increase the probability that services would integrate the framework into their services. Related to this, it is important to consider that individual-level outcomes are likely to be very important when indexing recovery, and further work is needed as to how these are measured across services because they are likely to be associated with local clinical practices which may be idiographic and vary from service to service. However, a degree of standardisation would be valuable when monitoring and improving service outcomes, and specifying the method of measurement across our subdomains is an important next step. Together, our framework should have a beneficial impact upon improving both service quality and service user outcomes, while it would also allow for the creation of a national minimum dataset, specific to these services, which could be used to track service user outcomes and help develop and refine care-pathways. Considering future research, it is now appropriate to consider the likely instruments that could be used to measure outcomes, allowing us to trial this framework within existing hospital care pathways.



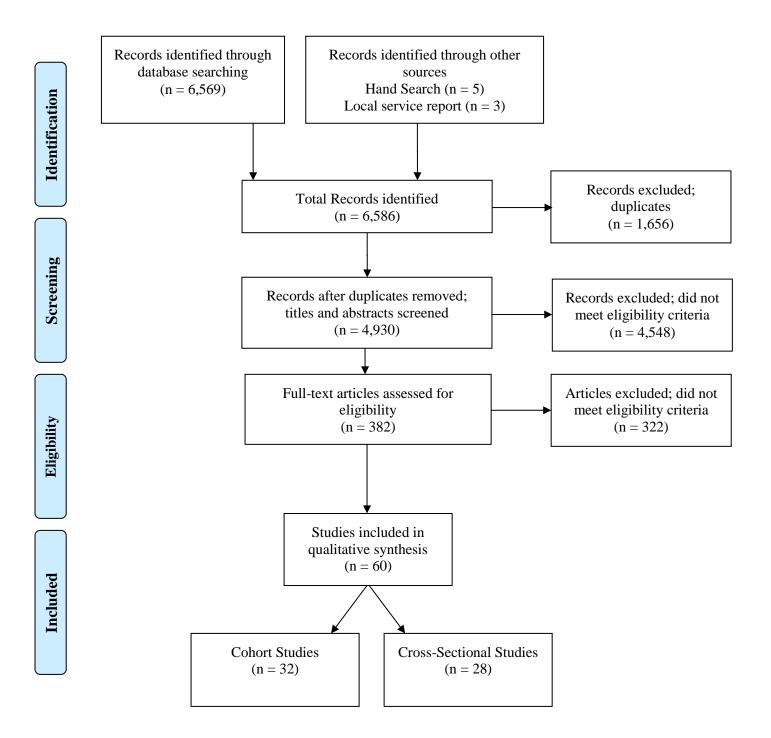


Table 1.

Summary of studies presenting data on the outcome domain of effectiveness (cohort studies).

Study and Setting	Design	Ν	Outcome Sub-Domain	Measure/Indicator
Alexander et al. (2006) ¹	Retrospective cohort study	64	• Treatment response/outcome	• Level of CPA support, MHA status and CGIS
(17)	Follow up: up to 13 years		• Discharge pathway	• Level security/type of placement at discharge
Medium secure			Readmissions	• % of patients readmitted to the same unit
			• Relapse in MH	• % of patients who experienced a relapse in MH symptoms
			Reoffending	• Number of patients formally reconvicted, cautioned or had police contact
			• 'Offending-like' behaviour	• Behaviour which could be classed as an offence but did not lead to police contact
Alexander et al. (2010)	Retrospective cohort study	138	• Length of stay	• Mean and median number of days
(37)	Discharged patients		Discharge outcome	• % of positive (move to a lower level of security) or negative (mov
Medium secure	Follow up: 6 years		-	to higher level of security) discharges
			• Discharge pathway	• Level security/type of placement at discharge
Alexander et al. (2011) (5)	Retrospective cohort study	138	• Length of stay	Mean and median number of days
Medium secure	Follow up: 6 years		Discharge outcome	• % discharged successfully (to a lower level of security) or not (to same/higher level of security)
Alexander et al. (2015)	Retrospective cohort study	30	• Length of stay	• Discharged patients only; mean and median days
(38) Medium secure	(arson vs non arson) Follow up: 6 years		• Discharge pathway	 % of discharged patients who moved to either a lower or same/ higher level of security
Alexander et al. (2012)	Retrospective cohort study	145	• Length of stay	• Median number of days and age on discharge
(20)	(Discharged patients. PD		Clinical symptoms	• PCL:SV pre-treatment scores (clinician rated)
Medium secure	vs ID vs PD+ID)		• Risk assessment	• HCR-20 pre-treatment scores (clinician rated)
	Follow up: up to 9 years		Reoffending	• Reconvictions at 1, 2 and 5 years follow up. Categorised as serious/violent offending (as defined by Home Office)
			• Time to reoffend	• The difference between discharge date and reconviction date for subsequent offence (median)

Note. ¹The sample in Alexander et al. (2010) overlaps with that of Alexander et al., (2011; 2015) and Esan et al. (2015). CPA = Care Programme Approach; MHA = Mental Health Act; MH = mental health; CGIS = Clinical Global Impressions Scale; PCL: SV = Psychopathy Checklist: Screening Version; HCR-20 = Historical, Clinical, Risk Management-20.

Table 1. continued

Summary of studies presenting data on the outcome domain of effectiveness (cohort studies).

Study and Setting	Design	Ν	Outcome Sub-Domain	Measure/Indicator
Ayres & Roy (2009) (39)	Case series	26	• Cost	• Average saving cost per patient (based on hourly rate of support)
Community	(70% male)			and for the service over 3 years
	Follow up: up to 3 years		• Level of support	Hours per annum providing both direct /indirect support
Barron et al. (2004) (40)	Cohort Study	61	Clinical symptoms	ABC and Mini PAS-ADD (clinician rated)
Community	Follow-up: 9.5 months		Treatment engagement	• Categorised treatment use and % with history of service use
	average		• Reoffending	 Number of patients who reoffended; mean number of offences per patient
			'Offending-like' behavior	• Telephone call with carers regarding police contact
Benton & Roy (2008) (41)	Cohort Study	113	• Reoffending	• Number of patients arrested, reconvicted and cases dropped
Community	Follow up: up to 3 years		• Discharge pathway	• Level security/type of placement at discharge
			Discharge outcome	• % of referrals discharged
			• Prevention of inpatient admissions	• Number of patients whose inpatient admission was prevented via community treatment
Butwell et al. (2000) (42)	Cohort Study	Up to 278	• Length of stay	Median and mean years, calculated per episode
High secure	Follow up: 10 years		• Discharge pathway	• Level security/type of placement at discharge
Day (1988) (43)	Cohort study	20	• Length of stay	• Mean number of months
Medium secure	Follow-up: 3 years		• Treatment response	• Categorised as either good (settled and co-operative), fair (continuing lesser problems) or poor (severe problems).
			• Discharge pathway	• % of patients discharged to rehab villa, community or hostel.
			Discharge outcome	• Level of adjustment at follow up, based on personal knowledge,
			C C	hospital notes and liaison with involved agencies
			Readmission	• % of patients readmitted to the same unit
			Reoffending	• Number who reoffended or returned to prison

Table 1. continued

Summary of studies presenting data on the outcome domain of effectiveness (cohort studies).

Study and Setting	Design	Ν	Outcome Sub-Domain	Measure/Indicator
Dickens et al. (2010) (44)	Retrospective cohort study	48	• Length of stay	• Mean number of days
Medium and low secure	Follow up: 15 months		Clinical symptoms	• HoNOS Secure: change between baseline and final rating. Quartile points used to allow for different lengths of stay (clinician rated)
Fitzgerald et al. $(2011)^2$	Retrospective cohort study	145	• Reoffending	• Home Office records; % of patients with both general and violent
(22)	Follow up: 2 years		-	offences.
Medium secure			• Risk assessment	• OGRS
Gray et al. (2007) (45)	Retrospective cohort study	115	Reoffending	• Home Office records: % of patients with both general and violent
Medium secure	Follow up: 2 years			offences
			• Risk assessment	• HCR-20,VRAG, PCL: SV (rated once)
Halstead et al. (2001) (27)	Cohort study	35	• Length of stay	Mean and median months
Medium secure	Discharged patients Follow up: up to 13 years		Treatment outcome	• Rated as either good (risks reduced, safe for discharge), some (progress made in some areas, risk remains), none (no change) or poor (worse than admission)
			Discharge outcome	% of patients discharged
			• Discharge pathway	• Level security/type of placement at discharge and follow up
			• Relapse in MH	• Recurrence of symptoms of illness or challenging behaviour
			Readmissions	• % of patients re-admitted to hospital
			Offender-like behaviour	• Behaviour which could be interpreted as an offence
			• Reoffending	Number of patients reconvicted
Lindsay et al. (2002) ³ (28)	Cohort study	62	• 'Offending-like' behaviour	• % of patients 'suspected of' re-offending
Community	Follow up: 13 years		• Reoffending	• % of patients with clear evidence of re-offending

2006; 2013). HoNOS = Health of the Nation Outcome Scale; OGRS = Offender Group Reconviction Scale; VRAG = Violence Risk Appraisal Guide

Table 1. continued

Summary of studies presenting data on the outcome domain of effectiveness (cohort studies).

Study and Setting	Design	Ν	Outcome Sub-Domain	Measure/Indicator
Lindsay et al. (2004a) (46)	Cohort Study	184	Reoffending	• Number of patients with clear evidence of re-offending
Community	Follow up: 7 years		Harm reduction	• Decrease in the number of incidents 2 years before referral vs incident data at follow up
Lindsay et al. (2004b)	Case Series	18	Reoffending	Number of patients with clear evidence of re-offending
(46)	Follow up: 3 years			
Community				
Females only				
Lindsay et al. (2006) (26)	Cohort Study	247	Reoffending	• Number of patients with clear evidence of re-offending
Community	Follow up: 12 years		Harm reduction	• Decrease in the number of incidents 2 years before referral vs incident data at follow up
Lindsay et al. (2013) (24)	Cohort Study	309	Reoffending	• Number of patients with clear evidence of re-offending
Community	Follow up: up to 20 years		Harm reduction	• Standardised service incident report data; number of offences committed in the 2 years before referral vs follow up re-offending data
Lindsay et al. (2010a) (47)	Cohort study	197	• Discharge pathway	• Number of patients discharged and level security/type of
Mixed services	Follow up: 2 years			placement at discharge, 1 year and 2 year follow-up
Linhorst et al. (2003) (29)	Cohort Study	252	• Reoffending	• Local law agency data and arrests frequencies used
USA Community service	Follow up: 6 months		• Treatment response/engagement	• Number of patients who completed treatment
Marks (2011) (48)	Retrospective cohort study	28	• Reoffending	• % of patients who reoffended (even if this did not lead to police
[unpublished thesis]	Follow up: 4 years			contact) determined by interview with current care team
Medium secure			• Length of stay	• Mean and median number of years
			• Discharge pathway	• % of patients in high, medium, low and community services

Table 1. continued

Summary of studies presenting data on the outcome domain of effectiveness (cohort studies).

Study and Setting	Design	Ν	Outcome Sub-Domain	Measure/Indicator
Morrissey & Taylor	Case reports	13	Clinical symptoms	• YSQ (patient rated), IPDE and PCL:SV (clinician rated): change in
(2014) (49)	Follow up: 2 years			mean scores
High secure			Discharge outcome	• Number of patients remaining in treatment, discharged to medium secure or transferred to another high secure ward
Morrissey et al. (2014)	Retrospective cohort study	70	Risk assessment	HCR-20: change in mean scores
(33)	(ID vs other non-ID			Ū.
High secure	services)			
-	Follow up: 5 years			
Morrissey et al. (2007)	Prospective cohort study	73	Discharge outcome	• % of patients who made positive (move to a lower level of
(50)	Follow up: 2 years			security) or negative (the same level of security) progress
High secure			• Risk assessment	• HCR-20
			Clinical symptoms	• PCL-R (clinician rated)
Morrissey et al. (2015)	Retrospective cohort study	68	• Length of stay	Median number of years
(51)	(Two cohorts:In-treatment	and	• Incidents	• Frequency per year in the first 4 years of treatment using hospital
High secure	and admission cohort)	24		incident records. Mean number of violent incidents per patient/year
	Follow up: up to 6 years		Clinical symptoms	• EPS-BRS (clinician rated) & EPS-SRS (patient rated)
			• Discharge pathway	• Level security/type of placement at discharge
			Discharge outcome	• % of patients who moved to a lower level of security
			Readmission	Number of returns from trial leave
Palucka et al. (2012) (23)	Retrospective cohort study	20	• Length of stay	Median number of days
Canadian inpatient unit	Follow up: up to 9 years		Discharge outcome	• Number of patients discharged
			• Discharge pathway	• Level security/type of placement at discharge
			Reoffending	 Any criminal justice involvement (even if charges were not pressed)

Note. YSQ = Young Schema Questionnaire; IPDE = International Personality Disorder Examination; PCL-R = Psychopathy Checklist - Revised; EPS-BRS = Emotional Problems Scale – behaviour rating scale; EPS-SRS = Emotional Problems Scale – self report scale.

Table 1. continued

Summary of studies	presenting data o	on the outcome domain	ain of effectiveness	(cohort studies).

Study and Setting	Design	Ν	Outcome Sub-Domain	Measure/Indicator
Reed et al. $(2004)^4$ (52)	Retrospective cohort study	45	• Length of stay	• Mean number of weeks
Low secure	Follow up: up to 14 years		• Discharge pathway	• Level security/type of placement at discharge
			Discharge outcome	• Positive (discharged to a level of lower security) or negative
				(discharged to a level of higher security) outcome
			• Incidents	• Collected from hospital incident records. Incidents at baseline
				(week 6 to 10 of stay) were compared to end of stay (last 4 weeks
				of treatment). Frequency (total number of incidents per month)
				was adjusted for length of stay. Change in incidents calculated per
				person per week
Xenitidis et al. (19	999) (53) Retrospective cohor	ort study	64 • Length of stay	Mean number of months
Low secure	Follow up: up to 11	1 years	• Discharge pathway	• Level security/type of placement at discharge
			Discharge outcome	• Good (discharged to community) or bad (not placed in a community setting) outcome
			• Incidents	• Collected from hospital incident records. Incidents at baseline
				(week 6 to 10 of stay) were compared to end of stay (last 4 wee
				of treatment). Frequency (total number of incidents per month)
				was adjusted for length of stay.

Note. ⁴The sample in Reed et al (2004) overlaps with that of Xenitidis et al. (1999).

Table 1.

Summary of studies presenting data on the outcome domain of effectiveness (cross-sectional studies).

Study and Setting	Design	Ν	Outcome Sub-Domain	Measure/Indicator
Ajmal (2008) (54) High secure	Cross-sectional	79	Clinical symptoms	• GSI and RSES (patient rated)
Beer et al. (2005) (55) Low secure	Cross-sectional	59	Placement appropriatenessClinical symptoms	 % of patients assessed as requiring a less secure placement SBS (clinician rated)
Beer et al. (2005) (56) Low secure	Cross-sectional	68	Length of stayPlacement appropriateness	 Mean number of months % of patients requiring less secure care. Main reason for delayed discharge via the Royal College of Psychiatrists Research & Development questionnaire
			Clinical symptoms	• HoNOS-Secure (clinician rated)
Chaplin et al. (2015) (57) Low secure	Cross-sectional	22	Risk assessmentIncidentsLength of stay	 HCR-20 median scores Average per patient at 3 monthly intervals. Coded for severity using the MOAS. Median number of incidents Median number of days
Chilvers & Thomas (2011) (58) Medium secure	Cross-sectional (M vs F)	77	Clinical symptoms	• NAS-PI scores (patient rated)
Crossland et al. (2005) (59) High, medium and low secure	Cross-sectional	60	• Length of stay	Median number of months
Dickens et al. (2013) (60) Medium and low secure	Cross-sectional 16 month period	68	• Incidents	 Severity rated by the individual completing the form as either: near miss, minor, moderate, high or very high Incidents/total bed days x 100. Average number of incidents per 100 occupied bed days, time of incident, number of violent/aggressive incidents and total number of incidents

Note. GSI = Global Severity Index; RSES = Rosenberg Self Esteem Scale; SBS = Social Behavioural Schedule; MOAS = Modified Overt Aggression Scale; NAS-PI = Novaco Anger Scale and Provocation Inventory

Table 1. continued

Summary of studies presenting data on the outcome domain of effectiveness (cross-sectional studies).

Study and Setting	Design	Ν	Outcome Sub-Domain	Measure/Indicator
Esan et al. (2014) (4) Medium and low secure	Cross-sectional (ASD vs non-ASD)	114	• Length of stay	• Mean and median months for both discharged and in-treatment patients
			• Discharge outcome	• Number of patients with a good (move to a lower level of security) or poor (move to a higher level of security) outcome
			• Level of supervision/discharge pathway	• Number of patients who were informal, under a MHA section, guardianship or supervised discharge
Fitzgerald et al. (2013)	Cross-sectional	136	Incidents	• Number of patients involced in incident in 6 month period
(21) Medium and low secure			• Risk assessment	• VRAG and HCR-20
Hall et al. (2014) (61)	Cross-sectional	136	• Treatment needs	Clinician ratings
Medium and low secure			• Security need	• Reference group ratings of appropriate security level
			Delayed discharge	• Number of patients no longer requiring current security level, main obstacle to progress
			• Length of stay	• Maximum and average years per level of security
			• Incidents	• Number of patients involved in an incident in 6 months period
Hogue et al. (2007) (62) High, medium, low and community	Cross-sectional	228	Clinical symptoms	• EPS-BRS (clinician rated)
Johnson et al. (2012) (63)	Cross-sectional	44	Clinical symptoms	• RSES and EBS (patient rated)
Medium and low secure			• Length of stay	• Mean number of months
Kellett et al. (2003) (64) High secure	Cross-sectional	45	Clinical symptoms	• BSI (patient rated)

Note. ASD = Autistic Spectrum Disorder; VRAG = Violence Risk Appraisal Guide; RSES = Rosenberg Self-Esteem Scale; EBS = Evaluative Beliefs Scale; BSI = Brief Symptom Inventory

Table 1. continued

Summary of studies presenting data on the outcome domain of effectiveness (cross-sectional studies).

Study and Setting	Design	Ν	Outcome Sub-Domain	Measure/Indicator
Lindsay et al. (2004c)	Cross-sectional	52	Offender-like behaviour	• % of patients suspected of re-offending
(65) Community			• Reoffending	• % of patients with 'clear evidence' of re-offending
Lindsay et al. (2008) (66)	Cross-sectional	212	Risk assessment	• HCR-20, VRAG, Static-99, SDRS, RM-2000
High, medium and low secure			Clinical symptoms	• EPS-BRS (clinician rated)
Lindsay et al. (2010b) (67) High, medium, low secure and community	Cross-sectional	197	Risk assessment	• VRAG and Static-99
Lofthouse et al. (2014)	Cross-sectional	64	Length of stay	Mean number of years
(68)	5 months of data	01	Risk assessment	CuRV
Rehabilitation, acute admission and residential home			• Incidents	• Aggression defined as acts of physical violence, aggression, force to hurt or damage to staff, peers or environment. Included verbal abuse which was aggressive, threatening or caused offence. Two researchers rated each incident as: 'aggression present' or 'aggression absent'. Number of patients who were aggressive in month 1 vs. month 5
Mansell et al. (2010) (69)	Cross-sectional	1,891	Delayed discharge	• % of patients who had completed treatment but did not have any
Medium and low secure	NHS vs Private provider units		• Incidents	 plans to leave the service in the next month. Average frequency where a patient was hurt by a patient or staff member (per patient over a 6 month period)

Note. SDRS = Short Dynamic Risk Scale; RM-2000 = Risk Matrix 2000; CuRV = Current Risk of Violence.

Table 1. continued

Summary of studies presenting data on the outcome domain of effectiveness (cross-sectional studies).

Study and Setting	Design	Ν	Outcome Sub-Domain	Measure/Indicator
McMillan et al. (2004) (70) Medium secure	Cross-sectional 6 month period	124	Risk assessment	• MDT ratings per patient on risk of physical violence (scale of 0-8) and number of times patient had been violent in 6 months prior to risk assessment.
			• Incidents	• Author coded each description based on explicit criteria and guidelines. e.g. physical violence (attempted, contact between assailant or object and victim, evidence of physical harm to victim or attendance of medical personnel). Coded from computerised hospital database
Morrissey et al. (2007a)	Cross Sectional	60	Incidents	Coded as either interpersonal physical aggression or verbal
(62)	12 month period			aggression/aggression to property. Further rated as low, medium or
High secure				high risk of harm. Number of patients involved in an aggressive incident
			• Risk assessment	• HCR-20
			Clinical symptoms	• PCL-R and EPS-BRS (clinician rated)
O'Shea et al. (2015) (71)	Cross-sectional	109	Risk assessment	• HCR-20
Medium, low and rehabilitation			• Incidents	• Hospital records in 3 month period following risk assessment for aggression and self-harm. Coded using Overt Aggression Scale. Rated on severity (1-4). Number of patients involved in any incident
Perera et al. (2009) (72)	Cross-sectional	388	• Length of stay	• Median number of years and % of patients who had stayed longer
Medium and low secure				than 5 years
			Delayed discharge	• % of patients assessed as requiring a less secure placement

Note. MDT = Multidisciplinary team

Table 1. continued

Summary of studies presenting data on the outcome domain of effectiveness (cross-sectional studies).

Study and Setting	Design	Ν	Outcome Sub-Domain	Measure/Indicator
Thomas et al. (2004) (73)	Cross-sectional	102	• Length of stay	Mean and mediannumber of years
High secure			Delayed discharge	• % of patients assessed as requiring a less secure placement and main reason for this
			• Security need	• SDTN scale completed by key worker and Responsible Clinician
			• Treatment needs	• CANFOR-Short and CANDID-Short. Average number of needs and unmet needs
Uppal & McMurran	Cross-sectional	396	• Incidents	Hospital computerised reporting system. Coded as per Department
(2009) (74)	(ID sample included in			of Health. Category A: major incidents (e.g. abscond, hostage
High secure	wider dataset) 15 month period of			taking); Category B: serious incidents (e.g. serious assault
	incidents			involving a weapon, attempted suicide); Category C: untoward
	mendents			incidents (e.g. attempted abscond, assault without a weapon);
				Category D: all other incidents (minor assault and verbal abuse).
				Most frequent location and time of incident. % of incidents which
				were violent and which were self-harm. Average monthly figure
				generated.

Note. SDTN = Security, Dependency and Treatment Needs Scale; CANFOR = Camberwell assessment of need - forensic version; CANDID = Camberwell Assessment of Need for Adults with Developmental and Intellectual Disabilities.

Table 1.

Summary	v of studies	presenting da	ita on the	outcome	domain d	of natient	safety	(cohort studies	0
Summar	y or studies	presenting u	itu on tiit	outcome	domain (Ji puttem	Burety	(conore studies	

Study and Setting	Design	Ν	Outcome Sub-Domain	Measure/Indicator
Alexander et al. (2015) (38)	Retrospective cohort study	30	• Seclusion, restraint and intensive	Mean number of episodes per patient/month
Medium and low secure	Follow up: 6 years		observations	
Alexander et al. (2010) (37)	Retrospective cohort study	138	• Seclusion, restraint and intensive	• Mean number of episodes per patient/month (adjusted for length of
Medium secure	Follow up: 6 years		observations	stay)
Alexander et al. (2011) (5)	Retrospective cohort study	138	Seclusion, restraint and intensive	Mean and median episodes per patient/month
Medium secure	Follow up: 4 years		observations	
Ayres & Roy (2009) (39)	Case Series	26	Medication	• Case study: reduction in frequency of use of PRN medication
Community	Follow up: up to 3 years			
Butwell (2000) (42)	Cohort Study	Up to	• Death	• Frequency of episodes (n and % of all patients)
High secure	Follow up: 10 years	278	Douin	requerey of episodes (if and /o of an parlents)
Morrissey & Taylor	Cohort Study	13	Seclusion	Hours per patient for every 6 months of treatment
(2014a) (49)	Follow up: 2 years			
High secure				
Reed et al. (2004) (52)	Retrospective cohort study	45	• Seclusion, restraint and	• Episodes at baseline (weeks 6 to 10 of treatment) were compared to
Low secure	Follow up: up to 14 years		relocation	end of stay (last 4 weeks of treatment)
				• Mean monthly rates calculated to control for length of stay
Xenitidis et al. (1999) (53)	Retrospective cohort study (4)	64	Seclusion	• Episodes at baseline (week 6 to 10 of treatment) compared to end of
Low secure	Follow up: up to 11 years			stay (last 4 weeks of treatment)

Table 1.

Summary of studies presenting data on the outcome domain of patient safety (cross-sectional studies).

Study and Setting	Design	Ν	Outcome Sub-Domain	Measure/Indicator
Esan et al. (2014) (4) Medium and low secure	Cross-sectional (ASD vs Non-ASD)	114	 PRN usage Restraint, seclusion and intensive observations 	• Mean number of episodes (total frequency divided by total number of months of stay to provide an average monthly figure)
Mansell et al. (2010) (69) Medium and low secure	Cross-sectional 6 month period	1,891	 PRN usage Seclusion, restraint, locked areas Access to health care 	 Average number of episodes Average number of episodes % of units who reported a delay in patients accessing primary (nurse/dentist) health care
Mason (1996) (75) High secure	Cross-sectional 12 month period	36	Seclusion	• Number of patients secluded; average number of seclusion episodes per patient/year; reason for seclusion and distress-related behaviours after seclusion.

Table 1.

Summary of studies presenting data on the outcome domain of patient/carer experience (cohort studies).

Study and Setting	Design	Ν	Outcome Sub-Domain	Measure/Indicator
Fish & Lobley (2001) (76)	Cohort Study (4)	20	Quality of life	• QoLS: change from pre to post move
Community	Follow up: 1 year			
Long et al. (2014) (77)	Cohort Study (4)	10	• Milieu	• EssenCES change from pre to post move
Low secure	Follow up: 3 months		Satisfaction	• Inpatient satisfaction questionnaire: change from pre to post move
Female only				
Marks (2011) (48)	Retrospective cohort	28	Quality of life	QoLS scores during treatment
[unpublished thesis]	study (4)		-	
Medium secure	Follow up: 4 years			
Trout (2011) (78)	Cohort Study (4)	44	• Quality of life	• PWI scores: change from pre to post move
[unpublished report]	Follow up: up to 2		Satisfaction	• Service specific evaluation questionnaire using a visual Likert scale
High secure	years			via interview:change from pre to post move

Note. QoLS = Quality of Life Scale; EssenCES = Essen Climate Evaluation Scale; PWI = Personal Wellbeing Index

Table 1.

Summary of studies presenting data on the outcome domain of patient/carer experience (cross sectional studies).

Study and Setting	Design	Ν	Outcome Sub-Domain	Measure/Indicator
Langdon et al. (2006) (79) Medium and low secure	Cross-sectional	18	• Milieu	• CIES read aloud to patients, scores during treatment
Mansell et al. (2010) (69) Medium and low secure	Cross-sectional 6 month period	1,189	Service satisfaction/complaints	 Number of patient generated complaints per unit over 6 month period, recorded via standardised survey Number of patients with an up-to-date and accessible copy of their
			• Involvement	own care plan and number of visitors for each patient per unit
Steptoe et al. (2006) (80) Community	Cross-sectional	28	Quality of life	• SOS and LEC scores during treatment.
Willetts et al. (2014) (81) Medium and low secure	Cross-sectional	45	• Milieu	• EssenCES scores during treatment.

Note. CIES = Correctional Institutions Environment Scale; SOS = Significant Others Scale; LEC = Life experience checklist.

Effectiveness	Number of Studies
Discharge outcome/direction of care pathway	26
Delayed discharge/current placement appropriateness	6
Length of hospital stay	22
Re-admission (i.e. readmitted to the same setting)	4
Clinical symptom severity (clinician rated)	16
Clinical symptom severity/treatment needs: patient rated	6
Treatment response/engagement	5
Treatment need	2
Reoffending (i.e. charges/reconvictions)	18
'Offending-like' behaviour (which did not result in charges)	5
Risk assessment measures	12
Incidents (violence/self-harm)	14
Security need	2
Other	3
Total	139
Patient Safety	

Table 2: Initial framework of outcome domains and sub-domains

Restrictive practices (restraint/relocation/locked areas/intensive observations)	12	
Restrictive practices (seclusion/segregation)	9	
Medication (i.e. PRN usage/exceeding BNF prescribing limits)	3	
Physical health	1	
Premature Death/suicide	1	
Total	26	
Patient Experience		
Quality of Life	4	_

Therapeutic Milieu	3
Patient experience: involvement	1
Patient experience: satisfaction/complaints	3
Total	11

Discharge outcome/direction of care pathway1Delayed discharge/current placement appropriateness1Re-admission (i.e. readmitted to hospital or prison)1Length of hospital stay1Adaptive functioning1Clinical symptom severity/treatment needs: patient rated1Clinical symptom severity/treatment needs: clinician rated1Recovery /engagement/progress on treatment goals: clinician rated1Recovery /engagement/progress on treatment goals: patient /carer rated2Re offending (i.e. charges/convictions) on discharge1Offending-like behaviour (no CJS involvement) on discharge1Incidents (violence/self-harm) (in care setting)1Risk assessment measures1Security need (i.e. physical/procedural/escort/leave)1Patient Safety1Prenature death/suicide1Medication (i.e. PRN usage/exceeding BNF limits/side effects patient rating)1/2Restrictive practices (seclusion/segregation)1Victimisation/safeguarding2Patient Carer Experience2Patient experience: involvement in care2Patient experience: involvement in care2Patient experience: involvement in care1Quality of life: patient rated1Therapeutic Climate1Access to work/meaningful activity (where appropriate)2Level of support/involvement in community (post discharge)2Carer experience: communication with services/involvement in care2 <tr <td="">Patient</tr>	Effectiveness	Source
Re-admission (i.e. readmitted to hospital or prison)1Length of hospital stay1Adaptive functioning1Clinical symptom severity/treatment needs: patient rated1Clinical symptom severity/treatment needs: clinician rated1Recovery /engagement/progress on treatment goals: clinician rated1Recovery /engagement/progress on treatment goals: patient /carer rated2Re offending (i.e. charges/convictions) on discharge1Incidents (violence/self-harm) (in care setting)1Risk assessment measures1Security need (i.e. physical/procedural/escort/leave)1Patient Safety1Premature death/suicide1Medication (i.e. PRN usage/exceeding BNF limits/side effects patient rating)1/2Restrictive practices (seclusion/segregation)1Victimisation/safeguarding2Patient /Carer Experience2Patient experience: involvement in care2Patient experience: satisfaction/complaints1Claret Suport/involvement in community (post discharge)2Level of support/involvement in community (post discharge)2	Discharge outcome/direction of care pathway	1
Length of hospital stay1Adaptive functioning1Clinical symptom severity/treatment needs: patient rated1Clinical symptom severity/treatment needs: clinician rated1Recovery /engagement/progress on treatment goals: clinician rated1Recovery /engagement/progress on treatment goals: patient /carer rated2Re offending (i.e. charges/convictions) on discharge1Offending-like behaviour (no CJS involvement) on discharge1Incidents (violence/self-harm) (in care setting)1Risk assessment measures1Security need (i.e. physical/procedural/escort/leave)1Premature death/suicide1Physical health1Medication (i.e. PRN usage/exceeding BNF limits/side effects patient rating)1/2Restrictive practices (seclusion/segregation)1Victimisation/safeguarding2Patient /Carer Experience2Patient experience: involvement in care2Quality of life: patient rated1Therapeutic Climate1Access to work/meaningful activity (where appropriate)2Level of support/involvement in community (post discharge)2	Delayed discharge/current placement appropriateness	1
Adaptive functioning1Clinical symptom severity/treatment needs: patient rated1Clinical symptom severity/treatment needs: clinician rated1Recovery /engagement/progress on treatment goals: clinician rated1Recovery /engagement/progress on treatment goals: patient /carer rated2Re offending (i.e. charges/convictions) on discharge1Offending-like behaviour (no CJS involvement) on discharge1Incidents (violence/self-harm) (in care setting)1Risk assessment measures1Security need (i.e. physical/procedural/escort/leave)1Premature death/suicide1Physical health1Medication (i.e. PRN usage/exceeding BNF limits/side effects patient rating)1/2Restrictive practices (restraint)1Restrictive practices (seclusion/segregation)1Victimisation/safeguarding2Patient Apperience: involvement in care2Patient experience: isstifaction/complaints1Quality of life: patient rated1Therapeutic Climate1Access to work/meaningful activity (where appropriate)2Level of support/involvement in community (post discharge)2	Re-admission (i.e. readmitted to hospital or prison)	1
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Therapeutic Climate1Access to work/meaningful activity (where appropriate)2Level of support/involvement in community (post discharge)2	Patient experience: satisfaction/complaints	1
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Level of support/involvement in community (post discharge) 2	Therapeutic Climate	1
	Access to work/meaningful activity (where appropriate)	2
Carer experience: communication with services/involvement in care 2	Level of support/involvement in community (post discharge)	2
	Carer experience: communication with services/involvement in care	2

Table 3: Final framework of outcome domains and sub-domains

Note. Source of domain Stage 1 = systematic review; Stage 2 = patient/carer involvement groups, Stage 3 = Delphi

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