

Research project outline

Title of the project	Use of data on outcomes and quality of services in decision making about services for people with intellectual disabilities and autism
Chief investigator(s)	Julie Beadle-Brown
Other partners	Agnes Turnpenny, Lisa Richardson, Beckie Whelton
Funder	Department of Health
Duration of project	18 months
Start date	January 2012
Background and rationale	User choice and personalisation has been at the centre of government policy in health and social care in the UK. The provision and use of information on quality of services is central to informed decision making about individualised supports and user choice. However, little is known about how people choose support and accommodation services and whether they use publicly available outcomes or quality data (or any other source of information about the quality of services) in making a decision about services.
Aims and objectives	<p>This study aims to explore how information on the quality and outcomes of services is used in decision-making about accommodation and support services including support provided in the person's own or the family home (e.g. supported living services) by people with intellectual disabilities or autism, their families, care managers and commissioners in England. The aims of the project are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review the role of quality and outcomes information on user choice in accommodation and support services. • Explore the types and sources of information available about the quality and the outcomes of services to facilitate user choice. <p>Investigate how quality information is used in the decision-making process about accommodation or personal supports.</p>
Methods	The project comprises of three phases. Phase 1 consists of a systematic literature review on the use of quality and outcomes information in decision-making about social care services, and a review of publicly available information on the quality of accommodation and supported living services in England. Phase 2 will consist of semi-structured interviews with people with intellectual disabilities or autism, their families, their care manager and commissioner. In Phase 3 a sample of commissioners and care managers will be interviewed to look at their use of information about quality and outcomes in decisions about people's care packages.
Status	In progress, Phase 1
Key findings (if completed)	
Resulting publications (if completed)	

This project is being undertaken as part of the Quality And Outcomes of person-centred care Research Unit. For more information on the work of the unit see <http://www.qoru.ac.uk/>.

