erably less prominently, particularly in male patients. These data indicate that increasing duration of initially untreated psychosis is associated with more prominent negative symptoms and greater general cognitive impairment, but not with greater executive/frontal dysfunction; such executive/frontal deficits appear to be 'locked in' considerably earlier in the evolution of the illness, especially among males.

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NR11. Clinical services and community care — II

Chairmen: D Olajde, T Brugha

OUTCOME OF REHABILITATION PROGRAMME: IS THERE A DIFFERENTIAL RESPONSE?

M. Bhat. *Leighton Hospital, Crewe, Cheshire CW1 4QJ UK*

Outcome measures of various Rehabilitation Programmes of Psychiatric patients have often lacked specifity. Various criteria have been taken into consideration and the outcome measured, some of these being number of subsequent hospital admissions, employment status or change in the social and mental status of the individual. However very few studies have looked into the differential response of patients with different psychiatric diagnosis to the given Rehabilitation programme. This was tried to be evaluated in our study. The study is based on a retrospective design, where notes of patients admitted to the rehabilitation unit of the hospital during the years 1992–94, were evaluated semiquanti-tatively. The Demographic data, symptom profile at admission and discharge, the Psychiatric diagnosis and the overall outcome of these 27 patients were noted. Each of these patients underwent the standard Rehabilitation Programme. The outcome in these patients was compared with the symptom profile, psychiatric diagnosis and the duration of illness prior to their admission to the programme using the Chi square test and t-test. It was noted that the outcome was not influenced by any particular symptom or the duration of illness before admission to the Rehabilitation programme in a statistically significant manner. However the only statistically significant finding was that, the patients with personality disorder showed poor outcome to the programme when compared with other patients who had similar disabilities but differed only in the diagnosis. This differential response seen, points to us that probably patients with personality disorder have different set of needs, and a successful programme might be devised for them taking into account these needs.

SERVICE PROVISION — A DIFFERENT APPROACH TO MOTHER AND BABY SERVICES IN NEW SOUTH WALES, AUSTRALIA. THE WENTWORTH TRESILLIAN

I. Bialas, G. Boyle.

Some of the Mother and Baby Services are provided in New South Wales (10 million population) by 4 Tresillian Family Care Centres. This is a Government funded organisation which offers a broad range of support services to parents with children aged 0–5 years. The 4 Tresillian Centres have 42 residential units. I will concentrate on a description of one of them, the Wentworth Tresillian.

The Residential Programme: The Wentworth Tresillian has 14 residential units for mother and baby diads. The units can accommodate other family members. Each unit includes en-suite nursery, bathroom and bedroom. There are common areas such as dining, group rooms and play areas. A programme of 6 days is offered. Clients are seen by the nursing staff, psychologist, social worker and other staff as required. A paediatric specialist medically examines all babies on admission. Groups are conducted during the programme including relaxation and discussion, education, parenting and relationships.

Reasons for admission include feeding and sleep problems, low weight gain, behavioural problems, post-natal depression, parent craft and parenting education, Department of Community Services referrals etc.

Referrals are made by telephoning the intake officer and received from General Practitioners, Paediatricians and Community Nurses.

The Day Stay Programme: Families attend 9.00am–2.00pm Monday to Friday. There are 5 nurses running this programme. Time is given to discuss problems, devise a management plan, assist, educate and support.

Referral is made by clients or health professionals.

Total Cost: Salaries are the bulk of the $1.9m (£0.9m) annual expenditure of the unit. 67% of these are for nursing staff and 1% for Paediatric and Psychiatry cover.

Staff Profile: 3 Counsellors (1 social worker and 1 psychologist), 21.8 Registered Nurses, 4.7 Enrolled Nurses, 2 Nursing Managers, 3.8 Cleaning/Hotel Staff, 3 Clerical Staff, 1 Educator and 1 Unit Manager.

Clients Assisted: In 1994, 843 babies and 797 mothers were assisted at the Wentworth Tresillian. 675 new registrations were made at the Day Stay Unit.

Access is currently improving with opening of the 24 hr free 'phone Parents Help Line which offers advice, support and referral. It is staffed by 4 workers on 5 hr shifts and takes 60,000 calls per year. This is in addition to the usual referral channels.

SERVICE PROVISION — A DIFFERENT APPROACH TO COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH TEAM SERVICE ORGANISIATION IN NEW SOUTH WALES, AUSTRALIA. THE WENTWORTH AREA MENTAL HEALTH SERVICE

I. Bialas, M. Wheeler.

The Wentworth area has a population of 326,000 and is located at the far western edge of Sidney encompassing the Blue Mountains, Penrith and Hawksbury Local Geographical areas. Service to the area is provided by a 30 bed inpatient unit with 2.5 consultants and 4 registrars in psychiatry. The area also has 2 main community bases and 3 smaller satellite community centres operating 9.00 am to 5.00 pm Monday to Friday.

After business hours the 2 Extended Hours Teams (EHT) operate from the 2 main community bases. The EHTs have 3 shifts per day. They take written and telephone referrals from families, clients, GPs, social workers and police. This way, round-the-clock care and crisis intervention in provided 7 days per week. After an assessment by a team worker who often goes out for the visit, the client is either managed by the team or referred to the on-call psychiatric registrar. The EHT carry a stock of medication and can take verbal orders for dispensing. The Team Base files records on existing clients which are readily available after hours. Team members on call carry mobile phones and pagers and use cars provided by the Health Authority ("community cars"). They generally visit in pairs after hours and sometimes may request police escort. Occasionally the on-call registrar is required to go out with the team and schedule a client under the Mental Health Act. This can also be done by a GP or Accident and Emergency doctor.

Following discharge of clients from hospital the team are often