



Intellectual Disability

OUR BELIEFS

We believe that services and supports for people with intellectual disabilities should be based on a clear set of values that reflect the importance of promoting self-determination and independence, and combating discrimination and social exclusion. We also believe that services and supports should be based on evidence about what is and is not likely to be effective in achieving these goals.

OUR AIMS

To help people gain a greater understanding of research in order to help them critically appraise existing sources of evidence and actively contribute toward building an evidence-base.

At the end of the scheme participants should be able to:

- Understand how research evidence is produced
- Critically appraise existing sources of evidence relevant to the design of health, social care and educational services and supports for people with intellectual disabilities
- Possess skills in devising participant sensitive methodologies that include people with intellectual disabilities as co-researchers, participants and users of evidence
- Evaluate the effectiveness and impact of services and supports for people with an intellectual disability
- Actively contribute to building the evidence-base concerning services and supports for people with intellectual disabilities.

WHO IS THE COURSE FOR?

The course is relevant to people involved in developing or providing services and supports for people with intellectual disabilities who wish to gain a better understanding of the nature and uses of 'evidence'. It is also relevant to people who are interested in developing their research skills in this area.

While most of the available evidence has been produced in the world's high income countries, we believe that many of principles underlying the production and evaluation of evidence are equally applicable to people working in middle and low-income countries.

WHO WILL BE INVOLVED IN THE PATHWAY?

The pathway is jointly convened by **Professor Eric Emerson** and **Professor Chris Hatton**. Project work will be undertaken under the direct guidance of the pathway convenors, **Dr Janet Robertson** or **Professor Glynis Murphy**.

1 By 'intellectual disability' we are referring to people who would be described in the UK as having a 'learning disability' or in the USA as having 'mental retardation'.

<http://www.lancs.ac.uk/fass/ihr/courses/newmres/intro.htm>

For further information please contact:

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