



A Pilot Scheme to Improve Health Outcomes for People with Learning Disability in Leeds.

People with learning disability experience long standing health inequalities. Pre Covid data shows that people with LD are dying on average 20 years younger than the general population, and often from preventable causes. The Covid-19 pandemic has demonstrated poor outcomes for people with learning disability, borne out in PH and LeDeR reports. The data shows that people with learning disability are at a 6-10 times higher risk of death from Covid-19 than the general population, across all age groups. Adults with Downs Syndrome are at particular risk-up to 30 times higher than age matched general populations.

One of the issues is that people are presenting to emergency services already very unwell with significant hypoxia, which adds to the risk of a poor outcome. We know that it can be hard to recognise subtle signs of deterioration in people with learning disability and silent hypoxia compounds this. Studies have shown that people who present to hospital with oxygen saturations of 94-95% had significantly increased risk of death compared to those presenting with saturations higher than 95%.

It is vital that we look at methods to help carers recognise the early signs of deteriorating health in people with LD and equip them with the skills to be able to escalate concerns appropriately. Carers are a valuable source of information about the individual for whom they care, because they know them very well and are best placed to pick up subtle changes in their wellbeing.

This pilot scheme aims to introduce the use of pulse oximetry and the RESTORE2mini tool into care settings for people with learning disability in Leeds, to improve outcomes for this population by ensuring the right interventions are made at the right time. These skills are relevant for use in any serious illness e.g. sepsis and pneumonia, and are not confined to Covid-19 infection. The pilot scheme is starting with Aspire Supported Living Services but aims to get across all settings over the next 12 months.

RESTORE stands for **R**ecognising **E**arly **S**oft Signs, **T**ake **O**bservations, **R**espond. RESTORE2 mini is being used widely in the SW of England, where it has been well received and is helping non-clinically trained carers to report concerns in a timely manner.

The training also upskills carers to report concerns using an **SBARD** (**S**ituation, **B**ackground, **A**ssessment, **R**ecord, **D**ecision) method which means we have a common language with which to share information.

Please be aware when receiving calls from concerned non-clinical carers of people on your learning disability register that they may be presenting information to you in a different way and will be able to offer a pulse and oxygen saturation reading and possibly a temperature too. Please support us to improve communication, ensure appropriate escalation of care and improve outcomes for people with learning disability.

A video for Primary Care is here <https://www.weahsn.net/our-work/transforming-services-and-systems/keeping-people-safe-during-and-after-covid-19/care-homes-during-covid-19/training-resources-for-care-homes/> if you would like to learn more about RESTORE2mini.