Guidance – Health Checks for People with Learning Disabilities

Improving the offer and the completeness of the Learning Disabilities Register

15th August 2018

What is the Annual Health check offer?

People with learning disabilities face significant health inequalities when compared to the rest of the population. Their physical and mental health is often poorer and on average they die younger, often from preventable conditions.

Having an annual health check is an effective way to promote better physical and mental health amongst this vulnerable group of patients, particularly by identifying unmet health needs and ensuring people get the appropriate care to keep them well.

Anyone over the age of 14 with a moderate or severe learning disability, profound learning disabilities, or a mild learning disability with other health needs, is entitled to an annual health check. The offer is part of the Enhanced Service. For every annual health check performed to someone with a learning disability, GP Practices receive a payment of £140.

What is the Learning Disability register?

The Learning Disability register is a record of **all known patients** that have a learning disability. It is also known as the QOF register. People of any age, including children, can be on this register. It is important that people with a learning disability are on the register, as they can then be offered reasonable adjustments to access the care they need, such as receiving an annual health check.
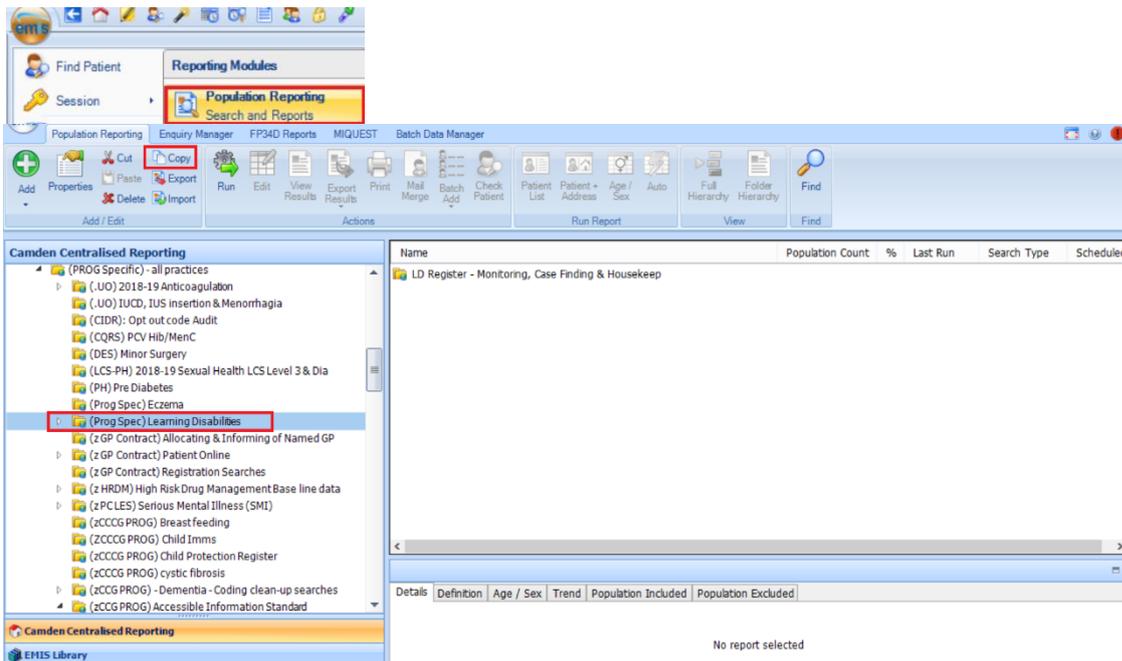
How are we performing in Camden?

Camden has seen an improvement year on year in the number of annual health checks completed. However, we are significantly underperforming when it comes to the completeness of our learning disability register. According to NHSE prevalence figures and local benchmarking, Camden's Learning Disability register across GP practices are only 70% complete.

We are asking all GP practices to look at the completeness of their own registers, to ensure that people are correctly on the register and offered an annual health check, to ensure this vulnerable group of patients are well supported.

Working with the people of Camden to achieve the best health for all
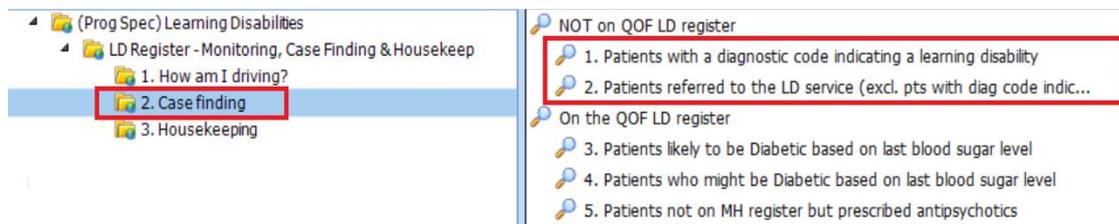
How can I do this?

1) In EMIS Web, click ![emis icon], click 'Reporting', click 'Population Reporting':

2) Click the Camden Centralised Reporting tab, navigate to the "(PROG Specific) - all practices" folder. Expand this folder and click the "(Prog Spec) Learning Disabilities" folder. Copy the folder and paste it into your practice's tab:

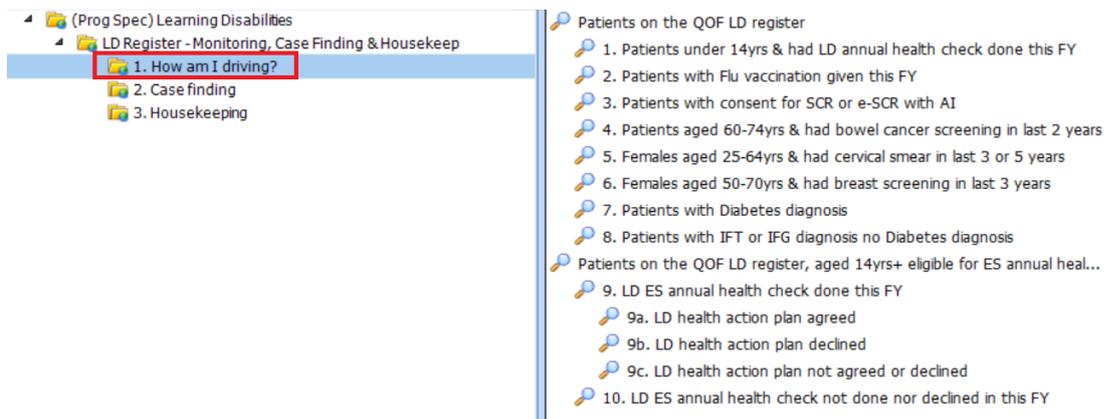3) Run the folder by highlighting the folder and clicking the 'Run' button in the ribbon:

4) Once the folder has run, select the "2. Case finding" folder and review the notes of all the patients included in the **two** searches beneath the parent search of "NOT on QOF LD register":

Please note: not all of these patients will need to be added to the Learning Disability register but it is advisable to review the notes of all the patients.

5) Once all the patients have been reviewed, use the "1. How am I driving?" folder to monitor the number of annual health checks completed, LD health action plans, flu vaccinations given, etc. Call and recall, and review patients 'excluded' from the searches:

Links to other resources

A range of resources can be found on the learning disabilities page on the GP website, including useful Easy Read templates. This can be accessed here.

The RCGP toolkit, made for GPs, practice nurses and the primary administration team can be accessed here.

Mencap's 'Don't Miss Out' resources has a series of guides for professionals, people with a learning disability and their family and carers, which can be accessed here.

Contact information

If you have any feedback on this guide, please contact Jonathon Horn, Commissioning Manager (Jonathon.horn@camden.gov.uk)

For queries about the annual health check offer and the LD register, please contact the Clinical Lead for Learning Disabilities, Dr Meena Anand: meena.anand@nhs.net