A Journey Towards Maximum Impact:

Development and implementation of an evidence-based early language clinical pathway across Wales.

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A cross clinical group of Speech and Language Therapists (SLTs) and Assistants (SLTAs) across Wales have co-produced an evidence based pathway to maximise the impact of intervention for preschool children with language difficulties from referral through to discharge.
Early intervention is key to improving outcomes for children with language difficulties (Law et al, 2013)
Rationale

The 4 principles of prudent healthcare

- Public and professionals are EQUAL PARTNERS through CO-PRODUCTION
- CARE FOR those with the greatest health need FIRST
- Do only WHAT IS NEEDED and do NO HARM
- Reduce INAPPROPRIATE VARIATION through EVIDENCE-BASED approaches

For further information visit www.prudenthealthcare.org.uk
Aims

To develop and implement an all Wales Early Language Pathway (WELP).

To provide clinicians with evidence-based guidance for clinical decision making, from referral to discharge within Specialist NHS Wales SLT services.
A systematic review and critical appraisal of the literature identified the following key themes:

- Assessment
- Risk factors for persistence
- Interventions
- Outcome measures
Pathway
Implementation
Impact

- National impact
- Service impact
- Individual impact
Future Directions

The *WELP* is a working document to be reviewed annually considering the evolving evidence base.

An audit tool is being developed to monitor the impact at a national, service and individual level.
Conclusions

• Challenges

• Success

• Reflections
Questions
References