A new service

The Northern Trust has developed a new service which will provide high level support and treatment for people experiencing an acute mental health crisis.

This service is known as the Crisis Resolution Home Treatment (CRHT) service.

The CRHT service began on 20 April 2009, initially in the Larne/Carrickfergus/Newtownabbey area and became available throughout the Trust area from January 2010.

Who is the service for?

The service is for adults who live in the Northern Trust area who are experiencing a severe problem with their mental health which requires consideration for hospital admission.

The service will also support early discharge from hospital if appropriate.

The service will provide an assessment for those attending general hospitals due to deliberate self harm.

About the service

- The service operates on a 24 hour, 7 day a week basis.
- The service offers multi-disciplinary assessment, treatment and support in a community setting. Treatment and support will focus on the safety, well being and empowerment of service users and carers during a period of crisis.
- Choice is improved for service users and carers by providing an alternative to hospital admission for treatment.
- Family and carers will be involved in the assessment and in agreeing a care plan.
- The service will continue until there is either sufficient improvement in the patient or if the patient’s needs increase so that they require a hospital admission.

What does the service provide?

- The service provides multi-disciplinary assessment, diagnosis, treatment and robust risk assessment.
- The service is usually provided in the patient’s home but can take place elsewhere if appropriate.
- The service will encourage involvement from the patient, their family and carers in the assessment and in agreeing a care plan.

How is the service accessed?

Referrals usually will be made following assessment by a mental health professional or GP. Those under the care of the CRHT will have direct access to the team 24 hours a day.

The Team will also receive referrals from GPs outside normal working hours where there is an emergency situation likely to lead to hospital admission.
How the service works?

- Skilled professional staff provide an initial assessment, involving the family and carers to agree a careplan to address needs.

- The service will focus on beginning treatment as soon as possible and aims to relieve immediate distress and assist in the person’s recovery.

- The service will offer intensive monitoring and supervision in response to the patient’s presenting needs.

- The service will provide support for carers and family members to enhance existing support mechanisms.

For further information on the Crisis Resolution Home Treatment Service, you may contact:

Christine Bateson
Project Manager
Crisis Resolution Home Treatment Service
Holywell Hospital
60 Steeple Road
Antrim BT41 2RJ

Tel: 028 9441 3277

email: info@northerntrust.hscni.net

This document is available, on request, in accessible formats, including Braille, cd, audio cassette and minority languages.