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Introduction

Brain injury from trauma and other causes constitute common causes of disability in the UK. Advances in the acute care of head injuries have resulted in increased survival albeit with significant disability, with greater need for rehabilitation. Services for adults with brain injury in Birmingham comprise acute care, rehabilitation, adjustment and integration, in keeping with the NSF for long-term conditions. This poster describes brain injury services in Birmingham within hospital and community settings. Patients can be referred between services and mechanisms are in place which allow long-term review.

Acute Care = Selly Oak Trauma Centre and the Regional Neurosciences Centre at Queen Elizabeth Hospital, University Hospitals Birmingham NHS Foundation Trust

Moor Green outpatient brain injury rehabilitation

We provide rehabilitation on a daily basis to adults with an acquired brain injury. We have a team of professionals working with clients to achieve their goals – Occupational Therapists, Physiotherapists, Clinical Psychologists, Speech and Language Therapists, Adult Education Tutors and Consultants in Rehabilitation Medicine.

We see on average 141 clients per year, with an average length of treatment of 32 weeks. The majority of our clients are aged between 16 and 50. We operate an Individual Goal Planning system, whereby clients identify their long term and medium term goals, and staff develop short term goals to move clients in the right direction. Goal attainment can be summarised as follows:

Goal	Percentage
Fully or partially achieved	74%
On-going	15%
Abandoned / not achieved	11%

People who have made significant progress but who are unsure of vocational options are helped through the prevocational programme with goals of returning to work, seeking alternative job options, voluntary work. There is a link between employment agencies and Rehab UK.

Our success rate over a 10 year period has been about 70%.

Inpatient Neurological Rehabilitation Unit (INRU)

28 bed unit which provides post acute intensive inpatient rehabilitation for people with acquired brain injury (ABI) and other neurological conditions. (8 beds currently being allocated to stroke as pilot)

The team consists of consultants in Rehabilitation Medicine, Nurses, Physiotherapists, Occupational Therapists, Speech and Language Therapists, Psychologists, a Social Worker, Admissions Coordinator, Medical Secretary and Administrative Staff.

About 2/3 of referrals come from Selly Oak/QE hospitals.

About 84 patients are admitted per year with brain injuries, predominantly severe end of the spectrum which represents about 80% of the admissions. (See Fig 1)

Patients in vegetative and minimally conscious states are accepted. The mean length of stay is between 3 - 4 months. 90% of patients improve by 4 points or more on the Bathel index. About 80% return home with ongoing input from appropriate services. Main gap in service is lack of an NHS specialist neuro-behavioural unit in the West Midlands.

Role of the Consultant in Rehabilitation Medicine

Liaison service to the acute hospitals for assessment of impairments, estimation of prognosis and directing appropriate rehabilitative services including equipment provision such as wheelchairs and orthosis. Early rehabilitation medicine involvement aims to prevent orthopaedic and soft tissue complications

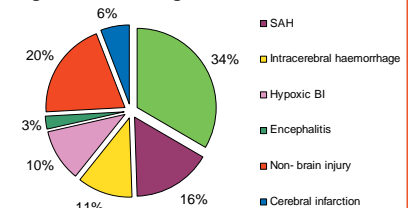
Services may be needed as outpatient for mild brain injury and inpatient for moderate to severe brain injury.

Responsible for medical and rehabilitation needs during inpatient rehabilitation and long-term follow up.

Evidence suggests early rehabilitation input reduces length of hospital stay and also improves functional outcome. There is close collaboration with neurologists and neurosurgeons.

Service development, training, audit and research

Fig 1. Clientele diagnosis



Brain Injury Specialist Clinics based at Moseley Hall Hospital

The clinic evaluates and treat a wide range of patients who have suffered ABI. The service provides multidisciplinary evaluation including medical examination and treatment of disabling physical, cognitive and neurobehavioural consequences of brain injury, neuropsychological assessment and psychological therapy, physiotherapy, occupational therapy and speech therapy.

Referrals are accepted from GPs, hospital consultants and other health and social services professionals within West Midlands. The clinic offers follow up for patients with ABI discharged from acute hospitals and INRU, providing advice about ongoing rehabilitation needs.

The team includes a Consultant in Rehabilitation Medicine with special interest in neuropsychiatry.

About 400 patients are seen per year by the team, 40% TBI, 25% vascular brain injury, time since injury varies from 2 months to 10 years.

Birmingham Neuro Rehabilitation Team (BNRT)

The BNRT is jointly funded by South Birmingham PCT and Birmingham Adults and Communities (Social Care and Health).

The team is of similar composition to the inpatient neuro rehabilitation team (INRU) with the exception of nursing staff.

BNRT accepts referrals from INRU and from the acute unit when there is need for ongoing rehabilitation after discharge from hospital. The team provides short-term community based rehabilitation for people with acquired brain injury (ABI) and more recently to other long-term conditions aiming towards community reintegration.

Rehabilitation takes place in peoples homes and day centre. The team has access to inpatient facilities.