

4. Reducing deaths from epilepsy

What is this work about?



Epilepsy is when someone has seizures (fits). Sometimes people die from epilepsy when they could have lived longer

What did they find out?



In North East and Yorkshire a team looked at information about people with epilepsy



They found that some people with epilepsy and a learning disability did not get the right support, care and treatment



It is important to have a care plan so the person, their supporters and staff know about the risks and how to manage them.

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Care plans need to be shared with the different services that the person uses



The team found that care and treatment are not always done well in different areas of North East and Yorkshire.



- Staff did not always look at all the risks for epilepsy for a person



- Health records did not always record the risks of epilepsy clearly



- Staff do not always work together to share care plans

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- When people are prescribed medication it is not always reviewed as often as it should be

What did the team do?

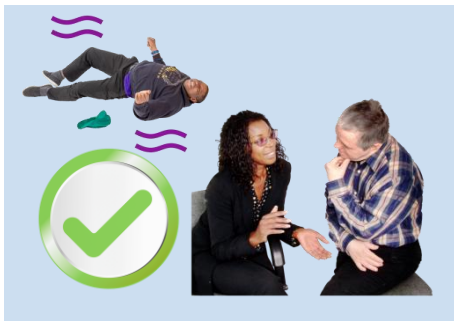


The team made a checklist to tell staff what to do to support and care for people who have epilepsy



This checklist told staff to:

- talk to people about their epilepsy at health appointments and how to keep safe



- talk about epilepsy and risks at every review to check staff are giving people the right care and support



- made sure information is shared across different areas of North East and Yorkshire

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- make sure all staff know if someone has epilepsy and understand the risks

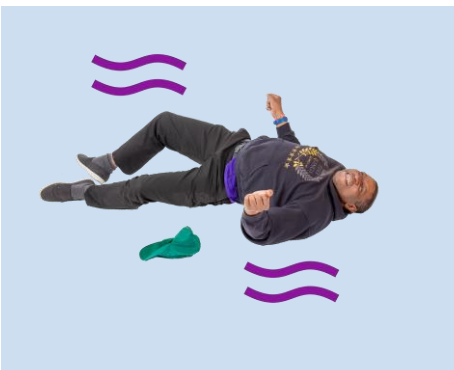


- make sure information is shared well across health and social care in North East and Yorkshire



The team also trained staff and carers about epilepsy

How did they make things better?



This helped staff to know about epilepsy and the risks. It helped staff give better support to people with epilepsy to help them live longer, healthier lives