



National
Academy
for Social
Prescribing

NASP Webinar: RNIB and SignHealth talk sensory impairments and social prescribing

Thank you for joining us. The webinar will begin shortly.



Housekeeping

- Please note we are **recording** this webinar *(you will be sent the slides and the link to the recording, and they will be on NASP's website too.)*
- Please submit questions via the **Q&A function**. We will hold a Q&A session at the end of presentations.
- Please use the **chat function** for introducing yourself and networking. If you have any technical issues, please raise these in the chat, and a member of the NASP team will assist.
- BSL Interpreters will be on screen throughout. **Closed Captions** are available (turn these on at the bottom of your screen)



Chair:

Monica Boulton, Healthcare Integration Lead at National Academy for Social Prescribing

Speakers:

- James Watson-O'Neill, Chief Executive at SignHealth (The Deaf Health Charity)
- Jacqueline Price, Partnerships & Development Manager (East Midlands & East of England) at RNIB (Royal National Institute of Blind People)





The Deaf Health Charity - SignHealth

James Watson-O'Neill, Chief Executive at SignHealth (The Deaf Health Charity)

THE DEAF HEALTH CHARITY SIGNHEALTH

James Watson-O'Neill
Chief Executive



THE DEAF HEALTH CHARITY SIGNHEALTH



- Social care
- Domestic abuse support
- Psychological therapy
- Children and young people's services
- Campaigning for change



- £9.5m turnover
- 200 staff, 75% deaf
- London, Birmingham, Manchester and Leeds

Deaf health in England



HOUSE OF COMMONS
LIBRARY

DEBATE PACK

Number CDP-0126, 29 June 2016

NHS England's Action Plan
on Hearing Loss and the
adult hearing service
commissioning framework



Shaping the future of deaf mental health

NHS Deaf Mental Health Working Group

Facilitated by SignHealth



NHS 111 BSL

NHS 111 BSL is a new service for Deaf or Hearing
impaired users to get help and advice.



A care system support organisation



Report to NHS England on the
outcome of a Rapid Review of
commissioning arrangements for
British Sign Language interpreting
services

21 July 2021

Prepared by the NECS Senior Consultancy Team
(Final 0.6)



Talking Therapies



for anxiety and depression

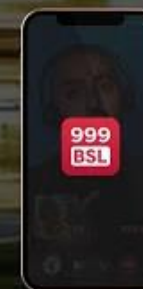


HOW THE
HEALTH SERVICE
IS FAILING
DEAF PEOPLE

THE DEAF HEALTH
CHARITY
SIGNHEALTH

999 BSL

Police Ambulance Fire Coastguard



UK Emergency VRS

Download free app
today to save lives

Connect to a British Sign Language
interpreter within seconds from anywhere

www.999bsl.co.uk



Accessible Information Standard 2016

- ✓ Ask
- ✓ Record
- ✓ Flag
- ✓ Share
- ✓ Meet



Useful links

- [BSL Health Video Library](#)
- [Accessible Information Standard](#)
- [Patient self-referral to signing therapies](#)
- [Patient self-referral to domestic abuse support](#)
- [deaf together](#)



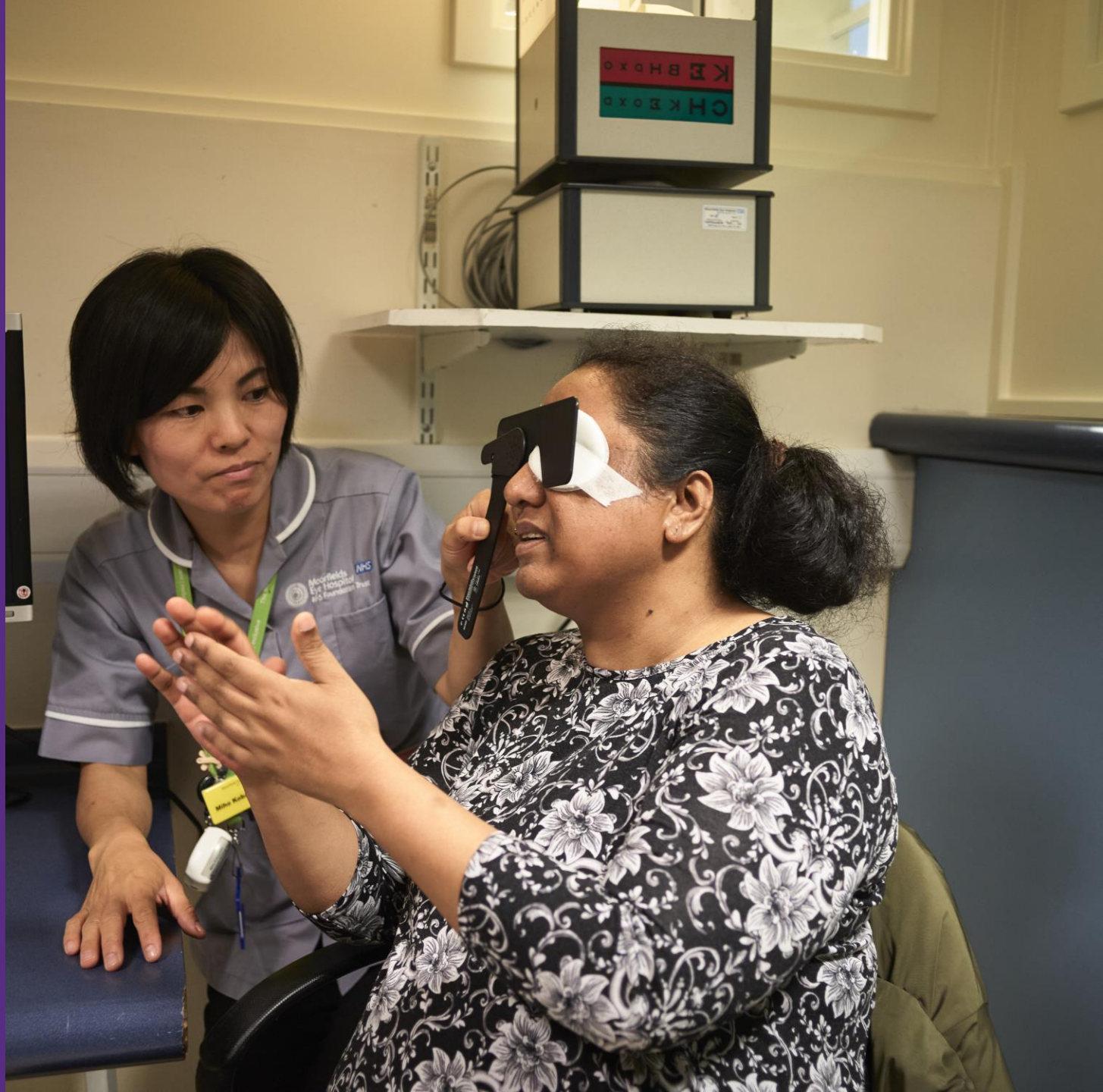
Questions for us to consider together?

- Are we disabling disabled people by colluding with “the system”?
- Are we recruiting a diverse range of colleagues and encouraging everyone to safely be themselves?
- How can we contribute to a rising tide of change in the health system and encourage people to expect difference?
- Are we using a medical or a social model of disability?
- Are we ready to recognise patients’ intersectional identities?
- How do we keep learning, and challenging ourselves to know more and do better?
- Is our language right? Do people feel safe to call us out?

Thank you

jwatsononeill@signhealth.org.uk

**THE DEAF HEALTH
CHARITY**
SIGNHEALTH





Sight Loss and Social Prescribing with RNIB

Jacqueline Price, Partnerships & Development Manager (East Midlands & East of England) at RNIB (Royal National Institute of Blind People)



Sight Loss and Social Prescribing with RNIB

Jacqueline Price

**RNIB Partnerships and Development
Manager (East Mids & East of
England)**

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Today's presentation

- **The prevalence of sight loss, the main risk factors for sight loss and prevention.**
- **The importance of identifying visual impairment amongst the people being supported by social prescribing activities.**
- **The experience of people with visual impairment with regards to the accessibility of health information and meeting the relevant legal requirements**
- **The support and services provided by RNIB and how to access further information, how to connect people to expert help and information.**

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The prevalence of sight loss in the UK

1 in 5

will live with
sight loss in their
lifetime



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Five sight loss stats you need to know

1. More than two million people are living with sight loss.
2. The number of people with sight loss is increasing. By 2050 it will double to over four million people.
3. Every day 250 people start to lose their sight.
4. One in five people will live with sight loss in their lifetime.
5. 340,000 people are registered blind or partially sighted.

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Key facts on prevalence and prevention

Age related macular degeneration, glaucoma, diabetic retinopathy and genetic conditions are the most commonly occurring causes of irreversible sight loss. Cataract is the most common cause of sight loss.

Sight can normally be restored but people with cataracts still need vision support in the meantime.

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Who is at most risk of sight loss?

- ✓ **People over 65**
- ✓ **Women**
- ✓ **Certain ethnic groups**
- ✓ **People with high blood pressure**
- ✓ **People with diabetes**
- ✓ **People who smoke**
- ✓ **People who experience barriers to eye health care**

At least 50% of sight loss is avoidable

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When did you last have your eyes tested?

- ✓ Regular eye examinations are essential for early detection and management of eye conditions.
- ✓ This is a good question to ask anyone who needs health or wellbeing related support or could be experiencing visual impairment

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Why is it important to be aware of sight loss in social prescribing?

- ✓ **Prevalence**
- ✓ **Prevention**
- ✓ **Key factor in exclusion and health inequality**

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Some effects of sight loss

- Loss of confidence
- Falls and accidents
- Isolation
- Difficulties in daily living tasks

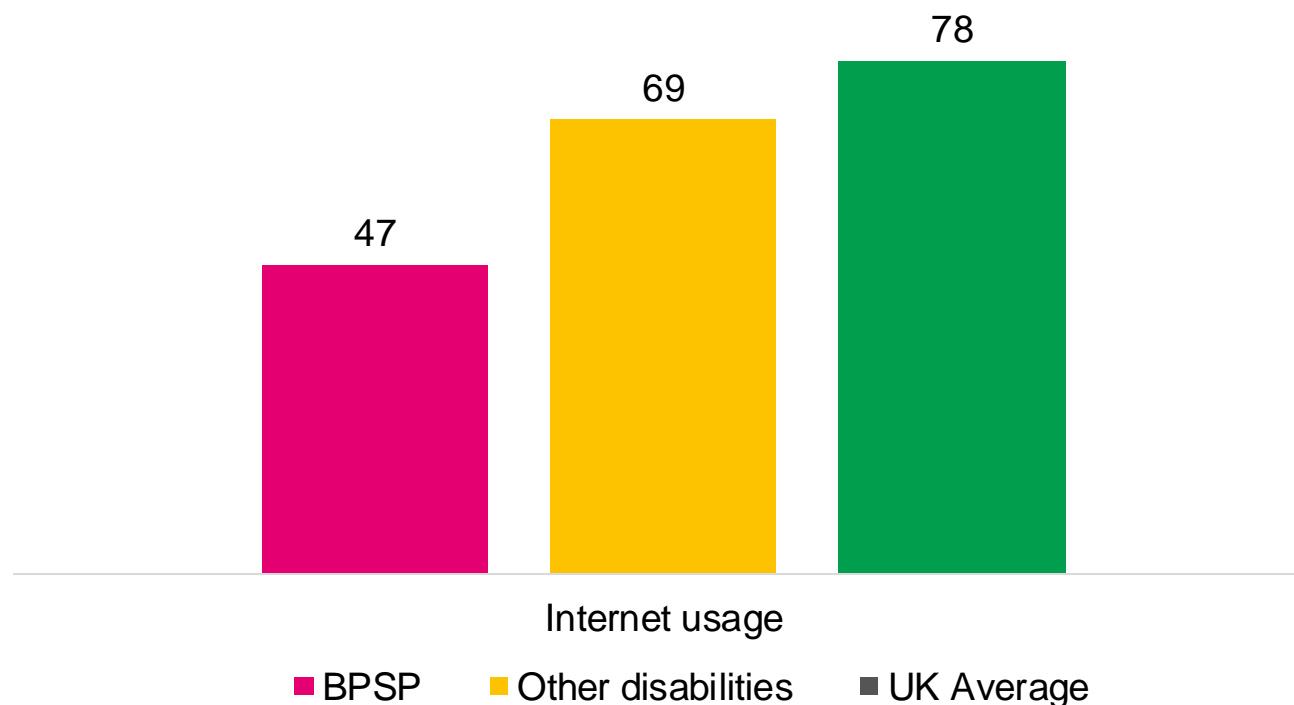
People affected by sight loss were more than twice as likely to have experienced difficulties with unhappiness or depression than the UK average.

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Digital Exclusion

Internet usage of BPSP compared to people with other disabilities and the UK average
(Understanding Society, 2020)



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Accessible Information

- Being able to read and understand health and care information is important for patient safety, and for managing health, wellbeing, independence and privacy.
- In the UK there is a legal requirement for NHS and social care organisations to ensure that information is accessible, and communications needs are met for blind or partially sighted people.
- Meeting this legal requirement reduces the risk of patients failing to attend appointments, improves patient safety and treatment compliance, and supports patient dignity, independence and privacy.
- Remember that everyone sees differently. Always ask people for their required information formats and their communication needs. Review these on a regular basis.

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My Info My Way – how I need to receive my information



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My Info My Way - When I don't get my information my way



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Accessible Information Makes a Huge Difference



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RNIB – how we support people with sight loss

- **Sight Loss Advice Service – Helpline, ECLOs**
- **Accessible Information**
- **Campaigning**
- **Education & Employment**
- **Emotional Support and Peer Communities**
- **Technology and Innovation**

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How to reach RNIB

RNIB support anyone who is worried about their eyesight, living with sight loss, or supporting someone who is.

Call: 0303123 9999

Email: Helpline@rnib.org.uk

Say: “Alexa, call RNIB Helpline”

Refer at: [Refer someone for RNIB services | RNIB](#)

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Next learning steps

RNIB courses on NHS Learning Hub

There are four RNIB Learning Choices courses available free of charge to anyone who creates a learner account on the NHS Learning Hub. You do not need to have an NHS email address.

To register for an account or to log in please go to the following link:

<https://learninghub.nhs.uk/catalogue/rnib>

The RNIB courses are :

[Communication Matters](#)

[Feelings, Attitudes and Emotions](#)

[How to guide people with sight loss](#)

[Eye Anatomy and Eye Health](#)

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Any questions and further Information

Any questions & where to find more...

- www.rnib.org.uk
- Free e-learning modules <https://learninghub.nhs.uk/catalogue/rnib>
- Contact me – Jacqueline.Price@rnib.org.uk

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Thank you and call to action

- E-learning modules to further your knowledge about supporting people with sight loss
- The importance of sight tests as part of health care
- Visit www.rnib.org.uk/get-involved/support-a-campaign/my-info-my-way and find out more about how you can support the My Info My Way campaign personally and professionally
- Thank you

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Q&A

