





# Prevalence of learning disabilities amongst clients' attending St. Marys Sexual Assault **Referral Centre: Preliminary findings**

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# **Background**

- Although it is agreed that rates of sexual assault are greater in people with learning disabilities (LD) than without, there is great disparity in the reported figures
- Previous St Mary's Sexual Assault Referral Centre (SARC) audit found people with LD (identified by self-report) received less follow-up care

# **Research Question**

What is the prevalence of learning disabilities amongst acute clients attending St Marys SARC for a forensic medical examination (FME)?

#### **Sub Questions:**

- 1. What are the demographics of clients' with LD as compared to clients without?
- 2. What is the comparability of the uptake of SARC follow-up services for clients with LD as compared to clients without?

# **Quantitative Methods**

# Participant Inclusion Criteria

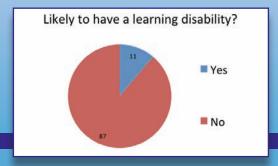
- English speaking clients
- Aged 18 years old +
- Attended St Mary's SARC for a FME

# Learning Disability Screening Questionnaire (LDSQ)

- McKenzie and Paxon, 2006
- Validated 7 item screen for likelihood of a learning disability
- Quick and simple to administer in clinical setting
- Employed since Dec 2016 (12 months for data collection)

# **Preliminary Findings**

- LDSQ was administered with 98 adults over the first two months of study



- The current sample size is too small to run statistical tests for differences
- Descriptive statistics are reported in Table 1
- Unable to present analyses on the uptake of SARC follow-on services for PwLD compared to without, as no follow-up data currently.

Table 1: Demographics of clients identified as likely to have a *learning disability (n=11)* 

<b>Gender</b> Male Female	2 9
<b>Age</b> 18-27 28-37 38-47 48-57 58-67	4 4 1 1 1
<b>Region</b> Greater Manchester Cheshire	9 2
<b>Ethnicity</b> White British Other	11 0
Number of alleged perpetrators  1 2 3+	10 1 0
<b>Met on social media</b> Yes No	0 11
Assault type* Penile vaginal Penile anal Penile oral Sexual touching Unknown	6 4 3 1 1
<b>Referral type</b> Police Self	11 0

<sup>\*</sup>Three cases where more than one assault type reported

# **Implications**

## This work will allow:

- Definitive prevalence figure for people with LD that disclose acute sexual assault.
- Comment on level of follow-up care given to PWLD as compared to those without.