

## **P-891 - DEDICATED IN-PATIENT TEAM REDUCED PSYCHIATRIC HOSPITAL IN-PATIENT POPULATION**

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**Introduction:** The majority of Irish Mental Health services are delivered in a sectorised model. Recently there has been some debate in the literature regarding the advantages and disadvantages of alternative models of service provision including dedicated in-patient teams. Due to a number of local and national factors a dedicated in-patient mental health team was developed in one of the two admission units in St. Ita's Hospital in north county Dublin.

**Objectives/aims:** To study the operation of a dedicated in-patient psychiatric team in a stand alone psychiatric hospital.

**Methodology:** We reviewed routinely collected service data between January 2009 and June 2010, including admission/discharge data, adverse incidents and mental health act data, to determine the effects of the dedicated in-patient team.

**Results:** The dedicated inpatient team resulted in a 22% reduction in the in-patient population compared to the same time period prior to introduction ( $p < 0.001$ ). No significant difference was found in the rates of adverse incidents however a reduction was seen in the number of mental health tribunals in the same period.

**Conclusions:** Our study shows that a dedicated in-patient consultant lead teams can result in a significant reduction in hospital admissions. Putative causative factors include greater availability of senior decision makers; improved responsiveness of medical staff due to lack of travel time between sites; a more consistent therapeutic environment due to reduced number of medical staff attending the unit.