

Dentistry for Children with Autism Project

09/02/17 St Lukes

Family Faculty: Annette, John, Karen **PenCRU:** Nicole, Chris, Sharon

Overview

- Nicole presented key findings of the research.
- The key findings were discussed. A draft of a Plain Language Summary was considered. An animated video of the key findings was viewed and agreed as a good way to disseminate the key messages via social media.
- Other ideas for dissemination also discussed.

What next?

- Publication of the research.
- Publication of Plain Language Summary.
- Sharing of animated video of key findings.
- Keep parents informed of how the research is being used.
- If you have any comments or come across any information or resources relevant to the programme, please contact us pencru@exeter.ac.uk or phone (01392 722968).

Discussion 1: Key findings

Following a presentation by Nicole, the group discussed the key findings. Key points that were raised were to highlight recommendations for dentists; a better flagging up system on dental practice computers was discussed being the most pertinent. An example was provided of coloured lanyards being used in airports to help alert staff of individuals with hidden disabilities. Nicole to add to discussion in academic paper.

Discussion 2: Plain Language Summary

It was felt by all that the summary was too wordy and needed to be simplified and reordered to be engaging to parents. Attendees added thoughts to the draft for Nicole to amend and recirculate to the group once the academic paper is published.

Discussion 3: Feedback on animated video

The group enjoyed the video and all agreed it was a good way to share key messages. Minor changes were suggested.

Discussion 4: Dissemination

Nicole will be presenting at Dentist conference at Plymouth Uni in September. It was discussed that sharing the video on social media via autism parent groups, aiming at parents initially could empower parents to share the information with their dentists.

Both Cerebra and The National Autistic Society have guides for families re oral health and visit to dentists for children with autism/learning disability/behavioural challenges. It was discussed that it might be useful to contact these organisations and look for international organisations who may be running campaigns about oral health which the research and Nicole's video could tie in with.

All dissemination is to wait until after the academic paper is published.

Discussion 5: Evaluation

Nicole brought a cake to say thank you to the advisory group for their contribution to the project. Attendees all completed a form with comments on their experience of being involved and some attendees were filmed talking about their involvement. Nicole may produce a further short film about the public involvement in the project to be shared on the PenCRU website if time permits.