

Scottish Mental Health Service User Research Network

ABSTRACT FORM

The Scottish Mental Health Service User Research Network was launched in 2011 with the aim of promoting mental health service user research in Scotland through helping to develop partnerships with other organisations, build capacity amongst service user researchers and showcase examples of good practice in relation to mental health service user research.

Organisations or researchers are invited to submit an abstract of their research to the Network. Where submissions satisfy the criteria agreed by the Network for service user research, these will be published on the Voices Of eXperience (VoX) website at <http://www.voxscotland.org.uk>.

If you wish to submit a research abstract or have any questions please email Chris White at c.white.mentalhealth@gmail.com

Research Title:	Protection or empowerment: Mental health service users' views on access and consent for non-therapeutic research
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Author(s):	G. Ulivi, J. Reilly ¹ and J. M. Atkinson
Date:	2009

Details of User Involvement (50 words max): <i>(This should include brief details of the level of participation by services users in the following stages of the research: research design; implementation and data collection; data analysis; dissemination)</i>
Service users participated in the research by taking part in focus groups, allowing them to express their views. They were not otherwise involved in design, or data collection.

Research Rationale (50words max): <i>(This should include brief details of the purpose of the research).</i>
A Catch-22 situation exists where researchers need to know whether service users have capacity for informed consent before involving them in research, yet cannot know this without interviewing them. It is necessary to find service users views on consent to participation in non-therapeutic research.

Method (75 words max): <i>(Brief explanation of research methods, participation, data collection, analysis etc.)</i>
Focus groups were run through existing day services for service users with long term mental health problems, who self-selected to participate. Data was collected qualitatively in note form from these focus groups.

Findings and Recommendations (150 words max): *(Please provide a brief overview of the main findings and recommendations)*
Service users felt that they would rather be approached about non-therapeutic research through services. They disliked the idea that they should be approached through their psychiatrist, preferring that they were not involved. Service users accepted that in some circumstances, their capacity to make informed consent may be impaired, but would rather have the option to go through consent forms with their family. Again, they saw no need for a psychiatrist to be involved in assessing their capacity, seeing this as intrusive and desiring to maintain autonomy.

Dissemination Details (50 words max): *(This should include details of any events, journals etc. and how to obtain copies of the research)*
Published in the Journal of Mental Health, 2009 (Vol. 18, No. 2 : Pages 161-168). It can be accessed online at the link below.

Keywords: *(keywords aimed at identifying the research report in information systems and search engines)*
'Service users' 'non-therapeutic research' 'capacity' 'consent' 'glasgow'

Link to full research paper: <http://informahealthcare.com/doi/full/10.1080/09638230802053367>

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Are you happy for this number to be publicised? Yes No

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Thank You