Long term evaluation of simulation training surrounding learning disabilities health across the lifespan

Easy Read summary
Introduction

We want to make lives better for people with learning Disabilities

Access to healthcare including going to doctors, hospital, mental health services, dentists are not easy to access

We want to improve your experience with these healthcare services
There is training on learning disabilities available but not all of it is good because it does not represent you.

Training which involves you is **better** because it tells healthcare staff what you need and how they can support you.

But no one knows if training is good long-term so we do not know if it helps you in the way you need.

We want to know if our training improves your experience of healthcare today, tomorrow and in future!
Our training

We created training using actors who have learning disabilities.

The actors pretend that they are ill or have something wrong.

The doctors, nurses or healthcare staff go into a room for 10 minutes and talk to the actor about what could be wrong.
This is recorded so everyone can see what is happening.

Everyone sits at the table and talks about what they have watched.

We did this 6 times in one day and then everyone went home.

What we did

One year after the training we emailed everyone and asked them for have a face to face meeting with us.
We met 9 people at different times and talked about their training day. We asked what they remember and what they do differently at work now.

**What we found**

We found that simulation training is really good for learning about caring for learning disabilities.

We use actors in our training which is why it is called simulation training. We decorate the room so that it looks like a hospital, a ward, your home, the doctors and the actors pretend something is wrong with them.
The actors make the training feel like it’s real life. This makes simulation training really good and other training courses don’t do this.

For healthcare staff, thinking about what they did and saw was also really good for them.

Staff could think on what they did and come up with ideas on how to improve the care they give to you.
Thinking about their behaviour also increased their confidence.

And they felt better in being able to give care for you.

After the training, healthcare staff say they change the way they talk so it suits your needs.
This could be using Makaton

Or using picture cards

Or using your health passport
They also said they would try to speak with you more instead of to your carer or legal guardian.

Some healthcare staff said they will now book you two appointments instead of one.

And book the appointment when it’s nice and quiet at the surgery.

This gives them more time to talk to you and also talk about your regular health check ups.
During the training, healthcare staff saw what it was like to see you in different places.

This included the doctors, Accident and emergency department and on a ward.
Healthcare staff liked to see this as they could see what it is like for you. They now understand where you are and who you talk to can affect you, your care and your treatment.

They also said they will try to care for you the way you want them to. They will talk to your carer to help with your care and treatment.

Healthcare staff say they now talk to other staff more about your care.
This is to ensure that you get the best care possible and all your needs are met.

Overall, simulation training is a great way to teach healthcare staff about learning disabilities.

Everyone involved said it would be good for everyone in healthcare to do this training.
Summary

This report is the first to look at the long-term effects of training on learning disabilities.

We still need to do more training and research. We want to train more people and see if we have the same findings.

We also want to see how our training directly impacts you. Next time we want to match patient outcomes to our training.
Maudsley Simulation and Maudsley Learning
Lambeth Hospital, 108 Landor Road, Reay House. London, SW9 9NT

Email: info@maudsleysimulation.com
: Maudsleylearning@slam.nhs.uk

Call us: +44 020 3228 6149

Website: https://www.maudsleylearning.com/
https://www.maudsleysimulation.com/

Most Pictures have been supplied by:
https://www.easyonthei-leeds.nhs.uk/