

Here's What You Told Us...

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My name is Sue Leekham and I work with Dr Catherine Jones the Director of Cardiff University Wales Autism Research Centre.

One particular highlight of our ongoing partnership with the National Autism Team this year has been a unique piece of research, a catalyst for this was the provision of specialist diagnostic training to staff in the Integrated Autism Service because this then enabled Gwent's trained IAS assessment team to be involved in research as they carried out their practice as usual.

So how was this work contributing to the lives of the people we work with?

The results of the research show that information that's collected at different points of diagnostic and assessment process using different methods and informants does seem to converge together to support the same assessment result and this then offers an opportunity for stream lining information gathering in the assessment process and potentially saving time for autistic people who are waiting for assessment and for staff during their assessment work.

In addition, this project provided valuable training for our clinical physiology trainee Gareth Davies who carried out the research with us. I want to send a big thanks to the Integrated Autism Service in Gwent and the National Autism Team for making all this possible.