

CAREVIS:

Co-creation And evaluation of a visual REsource to support Covid-19 Vaccine uptake in people with Intellectual Disabilities

Prof. Natalie Pattison, Prof. Jacqueline Kelly, Dr Helena Wythe, Prof. Julia Jones, Debra Fearn (UH), Dr. Raj Attavar, Anne Hunt (HPFT), Scott Watkins (expert by experience)
@wythehelena @drnatpat



Having a Vaccine for Coronavirus

By Sheila Hollins
illustrated by Lucy Bergon



Background:

The CAREVIS project aimed to evaluate the impact of a co-designed, visually accessible resource about the Coronavirus (Covid-19) vaccine for people with intellectual disabilities.

Methods:

We adopted a mixed methods co-design approach working with people with intellectual disabilities to develop a resource on COVID vaccinations (targeted at adults). We worked with the Purple All Stars group based at Hertfordshire County Council to guide our methods and book design. An Expert by Experience contributed to design and research ethics preparation. The three discrete work packages (WP) comprised:

WP1) Interviews with people with a mild-moderate intellectual disability, carers, health/social care professionals. Interviews were conducted via Teams and audio-recorded only. We used Thematic Analysis, and NVivo software.

WP2) Mapping of resource distribution, book downloads and local vaccine uptake data, and vaccine roll-out data using modified process mapping techniques.

WP3) Online survey of health and social care professionals, carers and people with intellectual disabilities (circulated via national networks, including RADIANT)

Findings and Key issues:

We interviewed: 11 people with intellectual disabilities, 10 carers and 14 professionals. 55 people completed the survey: including people with intellectual disabilities, professionals, carers and others. Eight mapping interviews were conducted, and several key documents reviewed. 33/35 interviewed could describe the purpose of the book; that the people depicted were having a vaccine and would be able to get close to friends/family and to start doing their normal daily activities again. Some would like more of the background/science to Covid-19 and certain images to be changed or repositioned (needle size, facial expressions), and some would like additional pictures/pages added to fully reflect developing vaccination procedures, timelines and boosters. Vaccine uptake in Herts/West Essex exceeded national averages: 66.1% of people with intellectual disability received all three vaccinations nationally, compared to 72.34%, 4,519 (83.3% who were eligible at that point in time).



I can read the pictures and talk about it at the same time'. Interview2
Person with learning disability

I liked it, I used it with patients in an inpatient setting to good effect. it minimised the fear and enabled a great deal of additional conversation about the virus
Health professional

Conclusion:

Co-design approaches for people with intellectual disabilities are likely to enhance understanding, and may improve potential for uptake of vaccination programmes. A purely visual resource, like this book has the potential to be an important resource in an area with limited resources available.