

Being a catalyst for change: The journey of implementing an Occupational Therapy model within a multi-disciplinary team

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The Project

What?

The OT introduced the Vona du Toit Model of Creative Ability (VdTMoCA) as the model of practice within a Multi-disciplinary team (MDT) on an inpatient mental health rehabilitation ward with the support of Dr Wendy Sherwood (International Creative Ability Network ICAN).

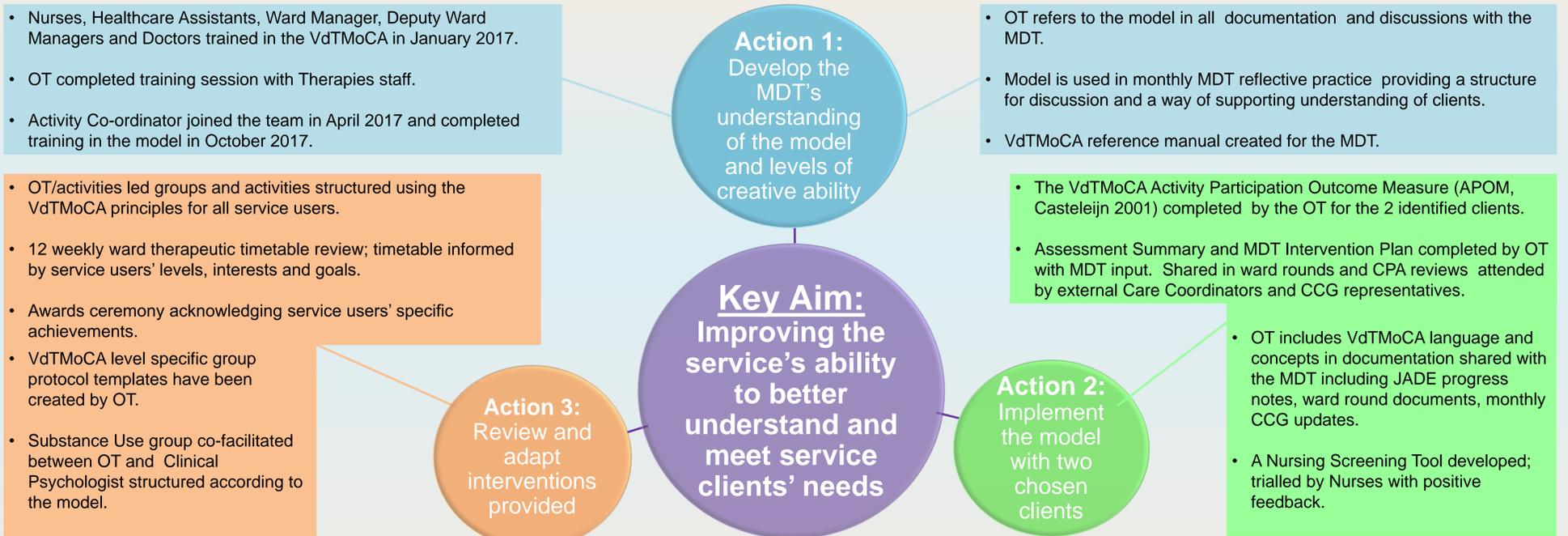
The Service

Ascot Villa is a 15 bedded, mixed gender, adult inpatient rehabilitation ward that provides care and support for people who have complex mental health needs. The MDT includes Consultant Psychiatrist, Specialty Doctor, Ward Manager and Deputy Clinical Development Nurse, Staff Nurse, Healthcare Assistants, Clinical Psychologists, Activity Co-ordinator, Occupational Therapist, Arts Therapists, Sport Technician and Pharmacist.

Why?

- MDT review and analytical survey with Dr Wendy Sherwood showed:
- Clients had complex needs and presentations; staff had unrealistic expectations of clients.
 - Poor client engagement in current programme which was shown to not be addressing all evident needs and lacked opportunities for engagement in constructive and unfamiliar activity and structured roles.
 - Limited staff resources (1 part time OT and no support staff).
 - Staff lacked a sense of satisfaction and efficacy in their roles/practice; staff wellbeing being a priority for the NHS in sustaining transformations in mental health care (NHS England 2016).
 - MOHO assessments not sensitive to small change and not directive in terms of intervention
 - MDT had individual ways of working and no shared language.

Implementation

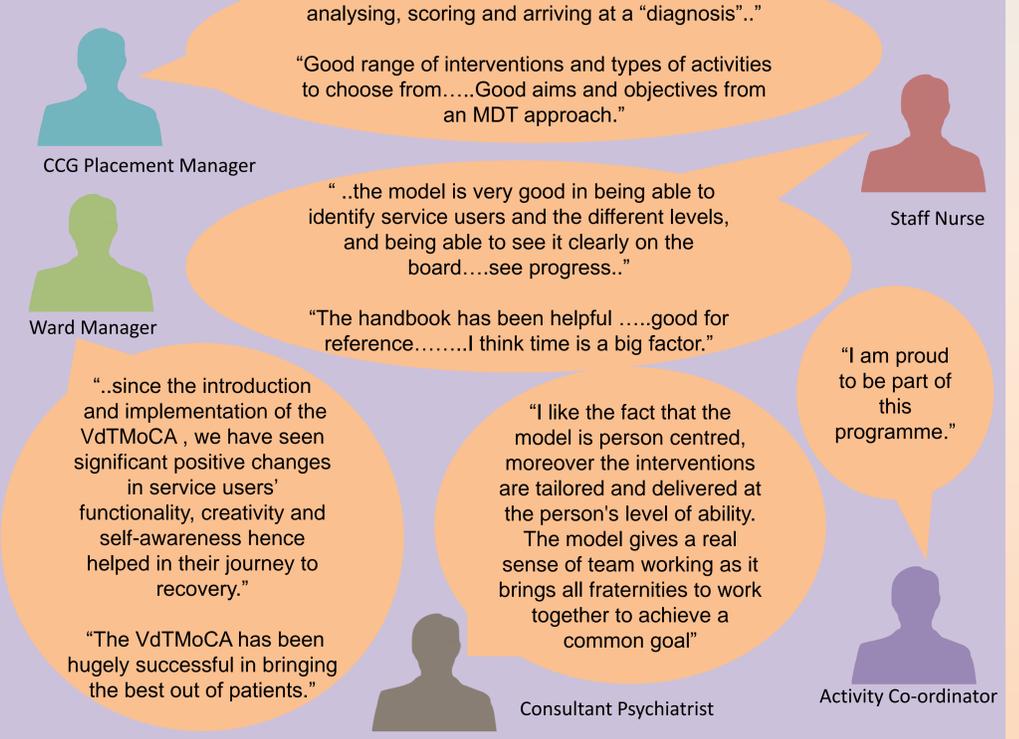


Outcomes

Successes

- Clients adjusted; clear increase in engagement and investment/identification in groups.
- OT and AC used the model to engage previous "non-engagers" successfully
- Positive feedback from CCG representatives for the 2 cases
- MDT positive response to the model from training
- Motivated AC who values the model as a method of positive change and actively uses the principles with guidance from the OT
- Some staff report it has supported them in developing their understanding of clients' behaviours and needs to better engage them

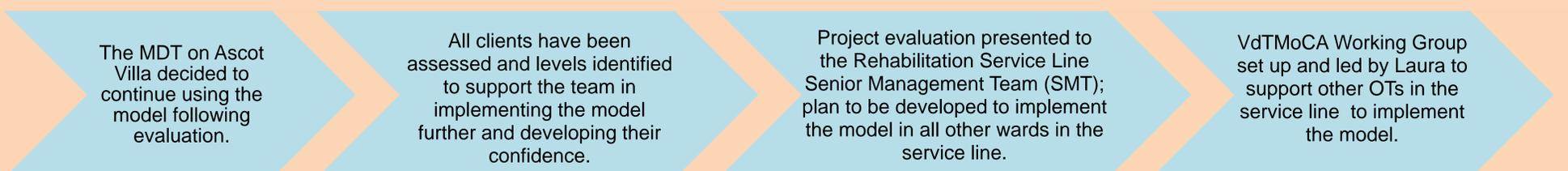
Feedback



Challenges

- Staff turnover – trained staff leave and new staff are not trained
- Staff availability/shift patterns
- MDT lack of confidence in the model
 - MDT staff did not always have the time to utilise resources as well as they could have including contact with Dr Wendy Sherwood, manual, other resources provided, discussion with OT.
- OT only part time on the ward so unable to fully support the MDT
- Therapy staff did not take the opportunity to complete the formal training
- Other projects on the ward including going through AIMS accreditation
- Seen as an 'OT project' as led by the OT

What next?



Interested to know more?

- Laura Murphy – laura.murphy13@nhs.net
- International Creative Ability Network (Ican) led by Dr Wendy Sherwood - www.ican-uk.com
- VdTMoCA Foundation UK – www.vdtmocaf-uk.com



References:

- NHS England (2016) Implementing the Five Year Forward View for Mental Health. London: NHS England. Available at: <https://www.england.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/fyfv-mh.pdf>. Accessed on 03.11.17.
- Casteleijn, D (2001) Use Manual. The Activity Participation Outcome Measure (APOM): A tool for occupational therapy clinicians in mental health practices.

Acknowledgements:

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