Middlesbrough MND Care Centre – Speech and Language Therapy (SALT) assessment pathway

Does the patient have an identified or assessed speech or swallowing difficulty?

Is the patient known to the district SALT service?

Care centre SALT will liaise directly with the district SALT. If this is a new change, a full assessment is to be carried out.

All patients with a diagnosis of MND will be assessed in MND MDT clinic on a *3 monthly basis by care centre SALT

Is the patient using any aids to communicate?

Does it meet their current needs?

Assess patient for appropriate communication aid

Consider:
- Patient choice
- Patients expectations
- Ability inc cognitive ability
- Age
- Background

Decide:
- Low tech (non-verbal signs, pen & paper, charts)
- High tech (keyboard, touchscreen, eye gaze)

When assessing patients for communication aid, you should also consider assessment and/or referral to:
- Regional environmental control service
- Regional Technical Aid Service
- Occupational therapy

Consider other resources such as charities and other services

Does the patient have complex needs which require a specialist AAC assessment?

Refer directly to:
- Regional Communication Aid Service, Newcastle (North East, Hamb & Rich)
- Assistive Technology Service, Barnsley (Whitby, Scarb, Harrogate & York)
- District SALT to liaise directly with AAC service

Swallowing difficulty

Consider early intervention and management including enteral feeding: follow gastrostomy assessment pathway

Can it be provided by district SALT and/or funded through the local CCG?

Provide equipment as appropriate. Reassess patient *3 monthly or when there is a change in need

*3 monthly is a guide. Assessment timings should be negotiated with individual patients

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>District</th>
<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Middlesbrough, Redcar &amp; Cleveland</td>
<td>Gill Everson (Care Centre)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Tees &amp; Hartlepool</td>
<td>Amanda Harris</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hambleton &amp; Richmondshire</td>
<td>Jannine Swinson (MDT)</td>
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<td>Stephanie Verity</td>
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<tr>
<td>Whitby &amp; Scarborough</td>
<td>Patient specific</td>
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<td></td>
<td>(Scarborough General Hospital)</td>
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<tr>
<td>South Durham &amp; Darlington</td>
<td>Sarah Swift (MDT)</td>
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<td>Natalie Eastwood</td>
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