

# Partnership in Exploring Compulsory Care & Treatment

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#### • • Overview of Session

- o Importance of involving service users
- The study
- How service users were involved
- o Personal reflections from the team
  - Benefits/difference it made
  - Challenges/issues
  - Key learning points

#### • • The Research Study

- Aimed to evaluate experiences of MHCT Act
- For Scottish Government
- Qualitative methods literature review, interviews, focus groups
- Key stakeholders service user experience central; informal carers; professionals
- o 2 Stages 6-12 months apart
- o 2006 2008
- To be published shortly

## • • Research Samples

- o 4 Health Board areas
- 49 service users 80% agreed to be interviewed twice
- o 33 informal carers/relatives
- 38 professionals national groups & local practitioners

# • • • Why Service Users Were Involved

- Acceptance at policy level
- Section 1 (3) (c) of MHCT Act "importance of the patient participating as fully as possible"
- Commission focused on service user experience
- o Our values
- o Networks

#### • • Implementing Involvement



#### Benefits – Researcher View

- o Impact on what we did protocols
- How we did it conduct of interviews
- What we asked
- Established rapport & credibility
- o Interpretation of findings
- o Personal capacity building

# • • What Interviewees Said...

o It felt better that there was somebody there that understood"

- "If I was sitting with two officials I couldn't be as relaxed, having a laugh as well as talking about these things"
- "Good that its also someone that's been in a similar situation"

### • • Some Challenges

- Scope of study
- o NHS Ethics committees
- o Employing people
- o Co-ordinating interviews with pairs
- o Skills in qualitative interviewing
- Support

# Some Key Learning Points

- Untapped capacity
- Training and support
- o Fresh insights
- o Involved at the outset
- o Payment
- o Flexibility
- o Positive culture