

Headache Service Transformation MasterClass

Improving headache and migraine services in a rapidly changing, complex NHS

Module 1: 1st & 2nd December 2025 – Halifax Hall, Sheffield University Campus

Day 1: Monday, 1st December 2025

- 08:30** **Registration**
- 09:00** **Housekeeping & welcome**
Dr Niran Nirmalanathan, national clinical director for neurology & consultant neurologist, St George's University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust
- 09:10** **The vision and pathways for headache services. 'A view from the sunny uplands'**
Dr Niran Nirmalanathan
- 09:40** **A view from the swampy lowlands. Can complexity theory inform service delivery and headache care with holistic practice?**
Dr David Kernick, general practitioner with extended role in headache, Exeter Headache Clinic
- 10:25** **Patient perspective - understanding the impact of headache and migraine**
Rob Music, chief executive, The Migraine Trust
- 10:45** **Refreshments**
- 11:15** **Patient experience and lived challenges + interactive audience discussion**
Deborah Kerr, GP with extended role in headache, National Migraine Centre interviewing Emily Wheeler, expert patient
- 12:15** **Lunch**
- 13:15** **Interactive case study discussion focussing on service transformation**
Expert-led discussion with Dr Mona Ghadiri-Sani, neurology consultant, clinical & educational lead in headache, Dr Razaan Haneef, GP with extended role in headache, The Walton Centre NHS Foundation Trust & Mia Parsons, highly specialist clinical psychologist, Guy's and St Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust
- 14:45** **Refreshments**

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- 15:15** **Small group case study discussions**
Breakout groups discussion service approaches to case scenarios
Dr Niran Nirmalanathan, Dr David Kernick & Siobhan Jones, headache nurse consultant, North Cumbria Integrated Care Trust
- 16:30** **Group feedback and expert panel commentary**
- 17:00** **"Innovation in practice." Includes initiatives on support for commissioners, GPs pharmacists, opticians, GPwER**
David Watson, GP with extended role in headache, NHS Grampian & deputy vice chair of BASH & Dr David Kernick
- 18:00** **The role of BASH in headache service development**
David Watson
- 18:15** **Closing remarks and summary**
Dr David Kernick
- 18:20** **Close**
- 19:15** **Pre dinner drinks**
- 19:45** **Dinner**
- 21:30** **Close**

Day 2: Tuesday, 2nd December 2025

- 08:30** **Registration**

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- 08:45** **Recap and outline for the day**
Chair: Siobhan Jones, headache nurse consultant, North Cumbria Integrated Care Trust
- 09:00** **Service development: how can the MDT support headache management?**
Healthcare professionals highlight their role in supporting headache services
Mathew Garrod, lead pharmacist for neurosciences and specialist pharmacist in migraine, University Hospital Southampton NHS Foundation Trust, Maha Ahmed, clinical nurse specialist - headache, University College London Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, Anne-Marie Logan, headache consultant physiotherapist, St George's University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust & Mia Parsons
- 10:00** **Practical aspects of developing a business plan and data to influence change**
Sue Thomas, independent healthcare consultant & PPV member, NHSE neurology transformation CRG
- 10:45** **Refreshments**
- 11:15** **Service improvement projects: focusing on the 3 shifts in healthcare**
Interactive session to design service improvement projects, with guidance from faculty
Dr David Paling, honorary strategic director, MS Academy & consultant neurologist, Sheffield Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust
- 11:45** **The role of pharmacists in high cost drug pathways**
Mathew Garrod
- 12:15** **The Sussex Migraine preventative Treatment Pathway**
Dr Jeban Ganesalingam, consultant neurologist & headache lead, University Hospitals Sussex NHS Foundation Trust & neurology lead, South East Neuroscience Oversight Committee
- 12:45** **Implementing the neurology transformation programme for headache**
Dr Gina Kennedy, consultant neurologist and clinical lead, South Tyneside and Sunderland NHS Trust
- 13:15** **Lunch**

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- 14:30** **Interactive case study discussion - live patient showcase**
Talk through how a patient moves through the headache pathway (use UHS pathway as an example). Speakers from different specialties the patient could see
Dr Jeban Ganesalingam, Mathew Garrod, Maha Ahmed & Anne-Marie Logan
- 15:45** **Summary of the day and key take home messages**
Chair: Siobhan Jones
- 16:00** **Close - Refreshments to take away**
- 16:15** **Mini bus to station**