Evaluating the effectiveness of the Midlands HIV nurses network: 20 years on and still going strong!

JOHN MCLUSKEY, CATHY ORMISTON, CATHERINE GATFORD
Background:

- Founded in 1998 – 4-6 members
- Currently 31 members
- Nurses working independently; nurses working in teams; specialist midwives; nurses from adult and child services; nurses from academia
- Meetings 4 x per year
Midlands HIV Nurses Network
Review of the literature:

- Networking enables effective communication across environments, divisions and boundaries (Weller et al 2014; Binder 2016)

- Encourages interprofessional collaborative practice (Morgan et al 2015)

- Creating high-performing collaborative teams (Cheruvilil et al 2014)

- Effective clinical supervision helps to reduce burnout in staff (Rowan et al 2015; Khamisa et al 2016; Molina and Dirkes 2017)
Network meetings:

- Standard Agenda
- Service Updates
- Education
- Clinical Supervision
- NHIVNA Updates
Evaluation:

“Is the Midlands HIV Nurses Network still useful in supporting HIV Nurses, Midwives and colleagues?”
Evaluation method:

- Evaluation form devised
- Distributed to all members of the network electronically or face-to-face
- Demographic data
- Qualitative statements: What was most effective and what could be improved?
- Challenges faced by Network Members
Results

- No original members were still working in the Midlands, but some are still working in HIV care

- Range of services and caseloads

- Tendering and Commissioning

- Range of experience across the Network, five individuals in new posts
Results cont:

- A place of support
- Complex case presentations and clinical supervision
- Educational Updates
- Challenges in attendance
Conclusion:

- The Midlands HIV Nurses Network is as strong and supportive as it always has been.
- Enables members to undertake their roles with more confidence in knowledge and skills
- Enables effective relationships across Trusts and services
- Enables teamworking to flourish, especially where clients are more transient
Action plan for future meetings:

- To introduce more structured educational sessions in each meeting
- To review the case presentation process
- To explore different mechanisms for conducting meetings
- To continue to support members through reconfiguration of services
Thank you for listening – Any questions?

THANK YOU TO ALL THE MEMBERS OF THE MIDLANDS HIV NURSES NETWORK