



Tāku Reo, Tāku Mauri Ora
My Voice, My Life

Developing a Self-Assessed Consumer
Outcome Measure for Aotearoa/New Zealand

Information Update 4

Date: 7th December 2006.

Case Consulting is pleased to be the host institution for the three year project to develop a psychometrically sound self-assessed standard measure of outcome for routine use by consumers/tāngata whai ora of mental health services in New Zealand. Once developed, it is intended that the measure will be implemented through the national mental health outcomes initiative (MH-SMART).

Please note that this is the fourth up-date on the progress of this project. If you wish to receive the previous up-dates please get in touch with us and we will forward them on to you.

Progress report:

As reported in the last progress report we began the national pilot of the preliminary measure in August. The initial response has just been incredible – a big thank you to all of you that have taken the time and effort to participate already. The overwhelming willingness of people to take part has meant that we are way ahead in the piloting process than what we had thought we would be. Yeh! However, the research team has decided to continue the process through to the planned finish date (end of February) to maximise the opportunities that people have to participate.

Just a reminder about what the pilot involves. We are inviting mental health consumers/tāngata whai ora aged between 18 and 65 to take part in the pilot by completing the preliminary measure that has been developed.

The measure begins with some general questions. This information will be used to make sure we get feedback on the measure from a range of people.

Following the general questions, a number of statements are presented and participants are requested to think about each statement and identify the option that best describes how they have generally been over the past week (including today). At this stage the measure is quite large (containing 147 individual items). Please don't get concerned about this – it is part of the plan! The pilot information will be used to work out which are the best statements to use in a shorter, revised version. The preliminary measure takes approximately twenty minutes to complete.

To date we have targeted specific forums and conferences where information about the project has been available and where people have had the opportunity to participate in the pilot. Towards the end of January and during February we plan to visit areas where people have identified that their organisations, groups and networks would like the opportunity to be involved in the pilot process. If your area is interested in us visiting could you please let us know as soon as possible so we can get onto organising the arrangements with you.

Please feel free to distribute this information to anyone you think may be interested in this project. We prepare and distribute a progress report every three months. If you would like receive a copy of this document directly please send your contact details through to Sarah O'Connor, admin.caseconsulting@paradise.net.nz.