Multiple Sclerosis Trust

Piloting the MS Self-Reported Assessment Tool for people with Multiple Sclerosis: Service User Perspective

Davies M, Thain J, McDowall K, Charles-Johansson E, Hewett M, Pelton T, Chatfield S, Freeman, J. On behalf of the Therapists in MS (TiMS) Group.

Background

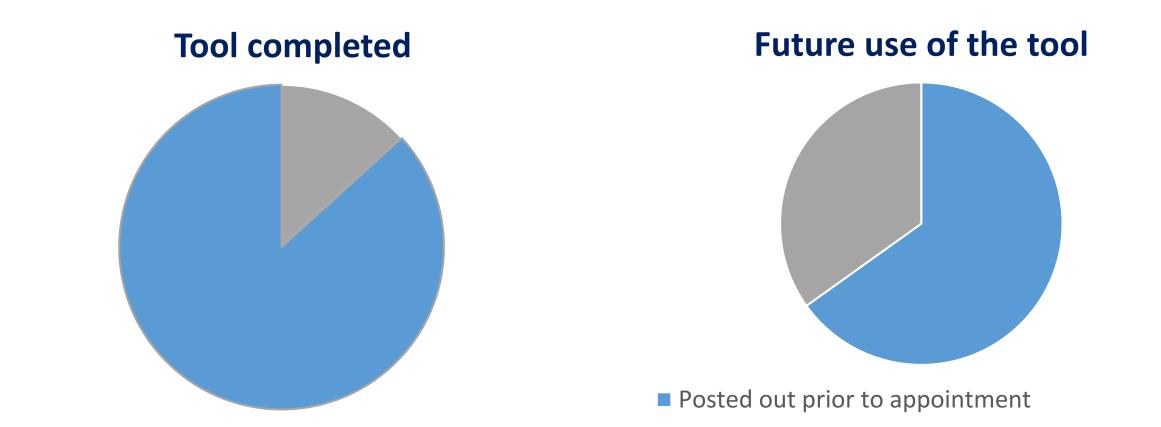
The NICE MS Guideline (2014) recommends that all people with MS should have an annual review by professionals with expertise in MS. The **MS Self-Reported Annual Review** Assessment Tool (AR) was developed to assist in the implementation of this guidance. An initial phase 1 pilot evaluation of this tool was undertaken to explore the professional perspective, demonstrating that the tool was feasible to implement, and valued as an adjunct to practice. The aim of this second phase was to explore the views of people with MS regarding acceptability of the assessment tool, and whether they

Methods

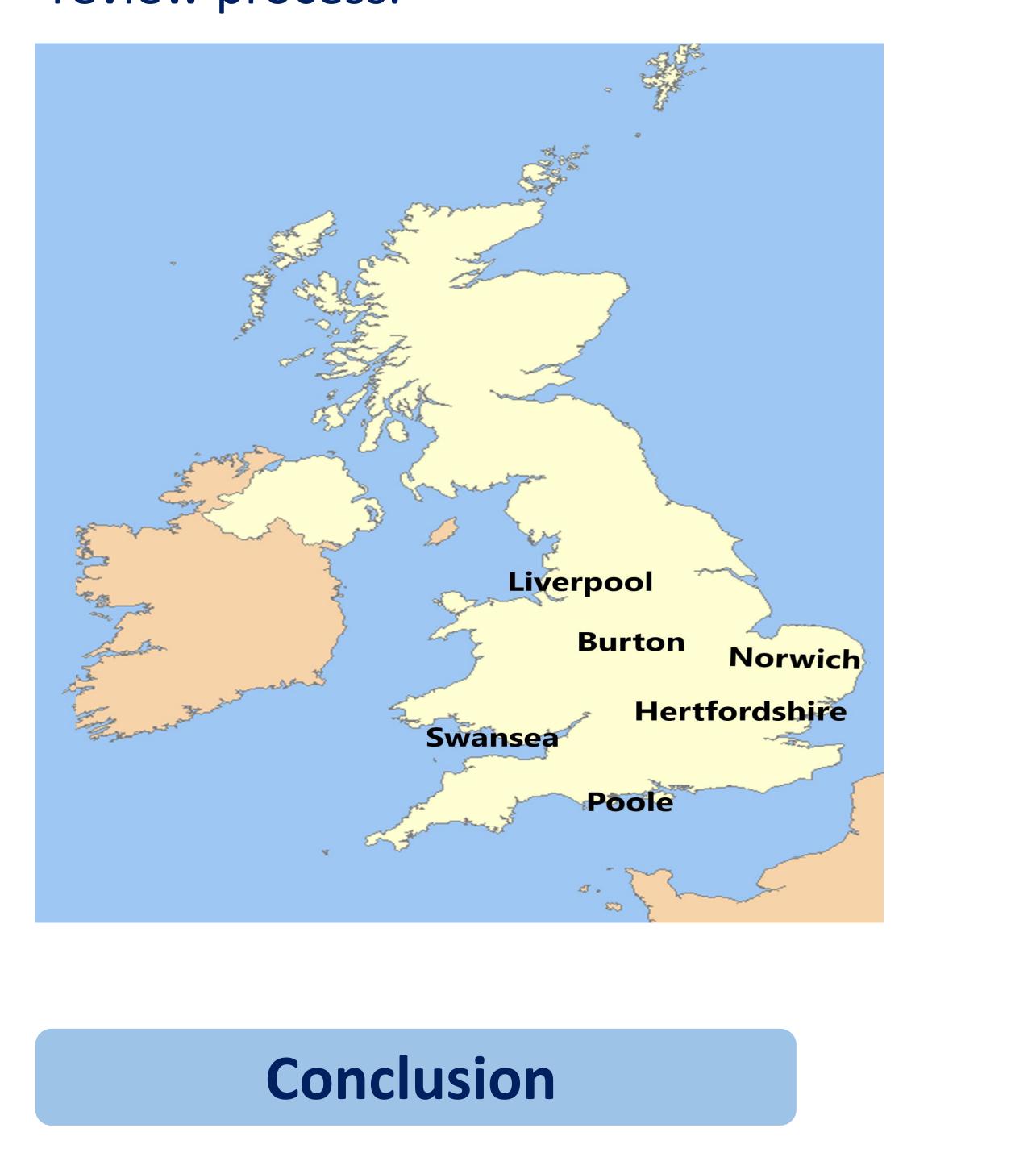
Seven sites from across the UK were provided with the tool, a guidance template for registering its use within their workplace, and advice to implement it in the way that suited their service. Following this, people with MS who had used the tool were requested to complete an online survey questionnaire.

Results

Table 1. Patient Characteristics (6/7 sites, n = 41)			
MS Subtype (n)	Gender (n)	Age	Time since Diagnosis
Relapse Remit 17	Male 18	28-80yrs	8months-42yrs
Secondary Progressive 13	Female 23	Mean 58yrs	Mean 14.5yrs
Primary Progressive 6			

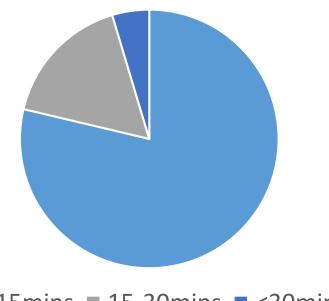


considered it added value to the review process.



With help Without help

Time taken to complete tool



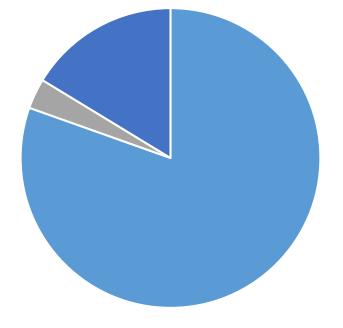
■ >15mins ■ 15-30mins ■ <30mins

"You listened to me and carried out a thorough assessment. I think the questionnaire helped you assess the parts that were important to me"

Given in the waiting room prior to appointment

IS

Would you like this tool to be used at your next review?



■ Yes ■ No ■ Don't know

"My nurse normally asks and covers all these questions without the form however it did prompt me to discuss my mood"

Feedback from patients

"Helped to focus on which ailment or worry was most beneficial to concentrate on in this session" "Reminded me of all the things that MS affects - really useful and a great preparation for appointment"

Gaining the service user perspective is important when introducing changes to practice. The annual review tool was acceptable to people with MS, representing a variety of MS types and disability levels. It was feasible to implement within different clinical settings and was considered by the service users to be useful in informing their annual review process.

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