

Care Placement Evaluation (CAPE)

Submission date 28/09/2012	Recruitment status No longer recruiting	☐ Prospectively registered ☐ Protocol
Registration date 25/10/2012	Overall study status Completed	☐ Statistical analysis plan ☒ Results
Last Edited 16/12/2015	Condition category Other	☐ Individual participant data

Plain English summary of protocol

Background and study aims

The Department for Education and Skills is promoting a new model of treatment foster care (MTFC). This study aims to see how this new type of foster care compares with the other types of care already being used for these young people.

Who can participate?

The young people who are aged 11-16 years and, in a care placement which was unstable, at risk of breakdown or not meeting their assessed needs, or at risk of custody or secure care and, who show complex or severe emotional difficulties and/or challenging behaviour.

What does the study involve?

Two groups of young people in care will be followed up over a 12 month period. One group will be placed in MTFC where they will be looked after by a specially trained MTFC foster carer. The young people will also receive support from a team of mental health and education professionals. When they are in an MTFC placement the young people follow a special programme which includes daily monitoring and a points and levels system. As they move up the levels the young people earn more privileges and when they reach the highest level they graduate from the programme. The other group of young people will receive the usual range of care placements which include normal foster care and residential care.

What are the possible benefits and risks of participating?

We do not anticipate any risks that may adversely affect the participants as a result of taking part in the trial. Young people will be fully informed as to what their participation in the research will involve. We do not anticipate any risks to research staff. All research staff are certificated by the Criminal Records Bureau.

Where is the study run from?

Universities of York and Manchester

When is the study starting and how long is it expected to run for?

The study started in 2005. Recruitment will ended in 2009 and the final follow-up was in 2010.

Who is funding the study?
Department for Education and Skills

Who is the main contact?
Prof. Jonathan Green
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Contact information

Type(s)
Scientific

Contact name
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Additional identifiers

Protocol serial number
A1

Study information

Scientific Title
Evaluation of treatment foster care in England

Acronym
CAPE

Study objectives
Placement in Multidimensional Treatment Foster Care (MTFC) will result in enhanced global functioning for the most troubled young people in care in England.

Ethics approval required
Old ethics approval format

Ethics approval(s)
University of York, IRISS Ethics Committee, 01/06/2005, ref: PKLG

Study design

Two-arm multiple-centre single (assessor) blinded randomised controlled trial embedded in a quasi-experimental observational study

Primary study design

Interventional

Study type(s)

Quality of life

Health condition(s) or problem(s) studied

Evaluation of Multidimensional Treatment Foster Care in England for Adolescents

Interventions

MTFC represents an enhancement of traditional foster care in two ways.

1. Specialist foster parents will receive training and ongoing supervision in an intensive social learning approach
 2. The provision of multidisciplinary team input including psychiatry and psychology
- The treatment as usual (TAU) intervention will be heterogeneous; consisting of existing foster care, residential care, or other placements.

Intervention Type

Behavioural

Primary outcome(s)

Two summative measures of mental health and social and physical functioning:

1. The standard Health of the Nation Outcome Scales for Children and Adolescents (HoNOSCA) (Gowers, Harrington, Whitton, et al., 1999)
2. Childrens Global Assessment Scale (CGAS, (Shaffer, Gould and Brasic, 1983)

Key secondary outcome(s)

Participation in education or training and involvement in offending at follow-up

Completion date

30/08/2010

Eligibility**Key inclusion criteria**

Eligibility for the trial mirrors the eligibility criteria set out by the National Implementation Team for inclusion in the MTFC programme. Young people are eligible for MTFC if they are:

1. Age 11-16 years and
2. In a placement which was unstable, at risk of breakdown or not meeting their assessed needs, or at risk of custody or secure care
3. Showing complex or severe emotional difficulties and/or challenging behaviour

Participant type(s)

Patient

Healthy volunteers allowed

No

Age group

Child

Lower age limit

11 years

Upper age limit

16 years

Sex

All

Key exclusion criteria

Young people diagnosed with a moderate or severe learning difficulty might not be considered suitable for the MTFC programme and therefore the trial, as it is necessary for those entering MTFC to understand and work within the programmes points and levels system.

Date of first enrolment

01/09/2005

Date of final enrolment

30/08/2010

Locations**Countries of recruitment**

United Kingdom

England

Study participating centre

Royal Manchester Childrens Hospital

Manchester

United Kingdom

M13 9PL

Sponsor information**Organisation**

University of Manchester (UK)

ROR

Funder(s)

Funder type
Government

Funder Name
Department for Education and Skills (UK)

Results and Publications

Individual participant data (IPD) sharing plan

IPD sharing plan summary
Not provided at time of registration

Study outputs

Output type	Details	Date created	Date added	Peer reviewed?	Patient-facing?
Results article	results	01/03/2014		Yes	No
Results article	results	01/08/2016		Yes	No