

# Clinical Nurse Specialist – Children’s Epilepsy Service (Baines 2017)

## Inputs

### Investment Direct

- › 1 WTE Band 7 nurse @ £43966 p.a (inc + 22.5% on costs)
  - › Secretarial support 7 hours p.w @ £4,004 p.a (inc + 22.5% on costs)
  - › Training - £500 from Roald Dahl Children’s charity
  - › Travel costs – approx 1330 per year / £0.65 per mile £869.05
  - › Consultant time – approx. 2 hours per week £4614 p.a (inc + 22.5% on costs)
- ### Indirect
- › Office space & supplies/equipment
  - › Monthly meeting with Paediatric Matron for 1 hour
  - › Resources – provided free by charities/ pharmaceutical company
  - › Telephone call charges – on average 12 calls per day.

## The Service

### Journey through Service

#### Activities

#### Clinics/home visits/telephone

- › Expert clinical assessment
- › management plan
- › New diagnosis
- › Rescue medication discussions/training
- › Care plan writing and reviews
- › Patient/ carer/ professional education
- › Transition support
- › Referral/signposting to other services
- › Health promotion
- › Counselling

#### Groups Targeted

- › Children aged 0-18 years who have a diagnosis of epilepsy/febrile convulsions/1<sup>st</sup> fit
- › Transition aged children from 14 years
- › Carers of those children above
- › Other healthcare professionals of those children
- › Education professionals

#### Source of referral

- › Hospital Consultant
- › GP
- › 1-2 new referrals per month
- › Current active caseload of 170 patients
  - › 16 high input
  - › 66 medium input
  - › 88 low input

## Summary of Benefits

#### For patients/carers

- › Reduction in anxiety
- › Better management of condition
- › Prevent school/social exclusion
- › Expert care provision
- › Reduced need for hospital admission/clinic appointment
- › Up to date evidence based information
- › Reduction of GP involvement
- › Improved medication compliance
- › Improved academic achievement
- › Better family dynamics

#### For healthcare system

- › The full economic cost of the epilepsy nurse service is £52640 for the high level input patients. Costs avoided range from £26320 to £78960. These figures do not take into account the wider benefits to the economy such as school attendance and they sit within the context of the significant quality benefits the service realises.

#### For other local services

- › Improved school attendance
- › Staff provide better support for their pupils with epilepsy

#### Opportunities for service development

- › To expand the service to include young adults in the absence of an adult epilepsy nurse within the trust

