

Building Mental Health Capacity in Somaliland

Dr Susannah Whitwell
Specialty Registrar in General Adult Psychiatry
South London and Maudsley NHS Foundation Trust
KTSP Mental Health Lead



Berbera Mental Hospital



Female psychiatric patients



Role play May 2009



May 2009 teaching trip



Revision course May 2009



Case discussion Dec 2009



Female medical students Dec 2009

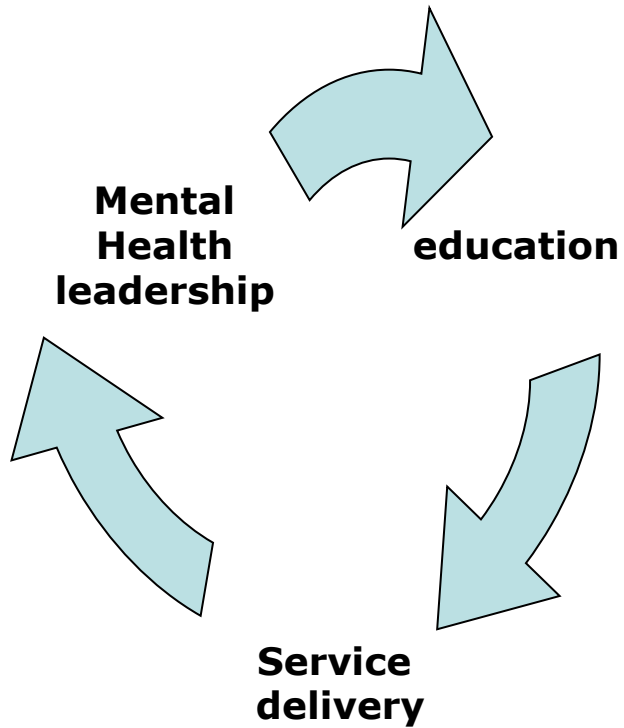


Mental health rep teaching
Dec 2009



Interviewing patients Dec 2009





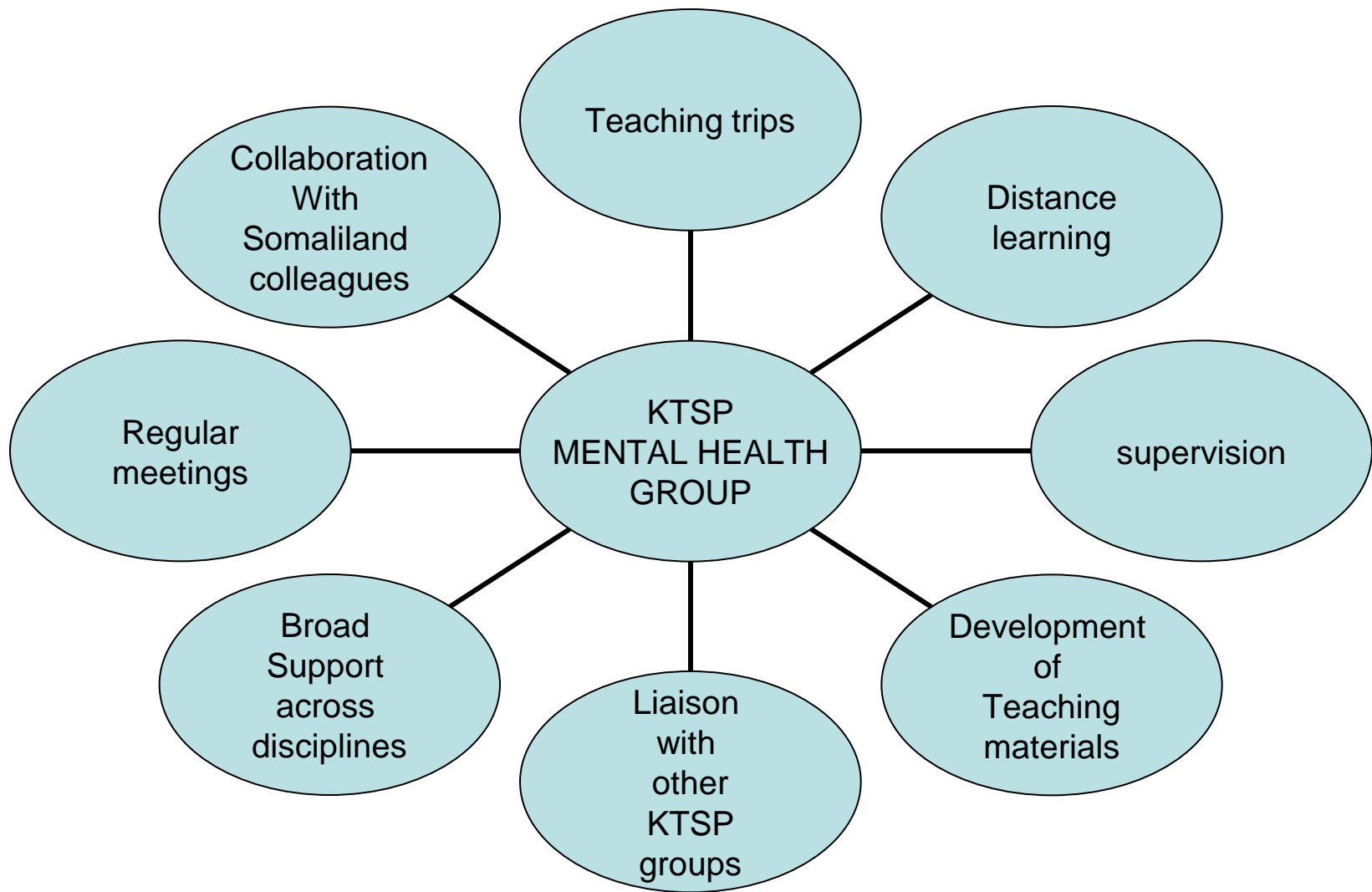
Students
Interviewing
Patients
May 2009

Teaching trip Dec 2009



Mental
Health
Reps
Dec 2009





Successes...



- Linking with physical health
- Strong mental health group in London
- Developing new mental health champions
- Working with local experts
- Working in an area of overwhelming need

Feedback on KTSP mental health projects

- "the teaching course was quite excellent" (May 2009- medical student)
- "the best thing of this course was that I learnt more about psychiatry and I change my idea about psychiatry. I realise psychiatry is an important cause. This course makes me think about being a psychiatrist" (Dec 2009-medical student)
- "When you came you showed us the secret behind and the roots of psychiatry. You also taught us that a good doctor behaves his patients well. All these encouragements rebuild my mind and now I know how to manage and classify the severity of different types of psychiatry. I would really appreciate if I can be a psychiatry doctor like you" (May 2008-medical student)
- "The most important reason for my application is to teach the Somaliland medical students the importance of mental health as the other diseases to create the sense of passion for psychiatrics for a country that has the lowest number of mental health specialists as compared to other countries in the world with a lot of mental sicknesses." (Sept 2009 intern application for Mental Health Representative role)