



Changes to Downs Syndrome Health Screening Clinic (DSHSC) from October 2016

In line with recent research, evidence and literature there are some changes being made to the format of the health screening clinics and to how often people should be attending. These changes should in younger clients (up to age 40) significantly shorten the length of time at clinic (apart from initial referral appointment).

Current research states that baseline dementia assessments are not required until approximately 29-31 years of age. Therefore someone attending DSHSC will not see a Psychologist until aged over 29 years for baseline dementia assessment, and then will not be seen again by Psychology until aged 40+.

However, if there are other Psychological difficulties present then a referral will be sent to Psychology for input/advice.

SALT will now do a full assessment at 1st referral and then will no longer have input into clinics unless a specific request for input is made.

I enclose a brief chart of timescales along with this information for your perusal.

Should you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact:

**Alana Laughlin
Business Services Administrator
GAP Hub
Muirhall Road
Murray Royal Hospital
Perth
PH2 7BH**

Tel: 01738 562276

DOWN'S SYNDROME HEALTH SCREENING CLINIC (DSHSC)

1st Referral to service (client under 29 years) = seen by Nursing, Physiotherapy, Dietetics, Speech and Language (SALT)

If aged over 29 years at 1st referral – will also have baseline dementia assessment by Psychology

Clients will then be seen as below:

< 40	40+	50+
(Seen 3 yearly by)	(yearly)	(yearly)
Nursing	Nursing	Nursing
Physiotherapy	Physiotherapy	Physiotherapy
Dietetics	Dietetics	Dietetics
	Psychology (every 2 years)	Psychology

SALT will now do a full assessment at 1st referral and then will no longer have input into clinics unless a specific request for input is made.