

PRESS RELEASE

For immediate use: 7 October 2021

New Mental Health Triage Tool Launched embedded into MTS

Following the announcement from Sir Simon Stevens that [Emergency mental health patients to get help within hour under NHS England plan | Mental health | The Guardian](#) the Manchester Triage System (MTS) is pleased to announce that new mental health charts for all Manchester Triage System tools will be launched in November 2021 by Advanced Life Support Group (ALSG.)

An expert Delphi study was performed which identified 52 discriminator statements using the world renowned MTS reductive method. It is intended for usage in emergency departments, ambulance services, out of hours and emergency care centres for patients displaying mental health crises.

The new mental health discriminators in the established triage tools are fully researched, providing an evidence-based approach in a flow chart process to help identify and pinpoint the needs of individual patients.

The updated triage tools will be available in November, ensuring that a robust triage process for mental health presentations is in place and provides a consistent and structured approach.

Sue Wieteska, CEO of ALSG said: "The extensive research and undertaking of a Delphi study ensures a robust and rigorous Triage tool for mental health will be in place by next month. We are busy updating all the Manchester Triage system tools and training materials to ensure a consistent approach across the whole pathway of care. We have every confidence that enhancing the mental health discriminators in the Manchester Triage System will support the safe prioritisation of patients presenting with a mental health crisis."

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Notes to Editor

An expert Delphi study was performed which identified 52 consensus statements about the emergency department triage of patients in mental health crisis (Mackway-Jones AJ, Mackway-Jones KC; An Expert Delphi study to derive a tool for Mental Health triage in Emergency Departments. Emergency Medicine Journal 2020; 37:738-743).