

INTRODUCTION TO HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE

Task 1: Community Disability Services (Poster)

Task 2: Community Antenatal Midwifery (Essay)

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Task 1: Community Disability Services (Poster)

Community Disability Services

Community Disability Services (CDS) in the United Kingdom are integrated health and Social care services that people with Physical, Sensory, Learning, or psychosocial disabilities to live independently and participate fully in their Communities. These services are based on social model of disability, which recognises that social, environmental, and attitudinal barriers, rather than impairments alone, limits inclusion and quality of life (Oliver, 1996). CDS aim to promote independence, Safeguarding, and wellbeing through person-centred and strength-based approaches.

Historically, disability support in the UK was dominated by institutional care during the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, with many individuals living in long-stay hospitals. A shift toward community care began after the Second World war and was strengthened by disability rights movements. The Chronically Sick and Disabled Persons Act 1970 marked a turning point by recognising the right to community support. Later legislation, including the Disability Discrimination Act 1995 and the Care Act 2014, further embedded personalisation, equality, and integrated working across health and social care (Department of Health and Social Care, 2014; Shakespeare, 2018).

References

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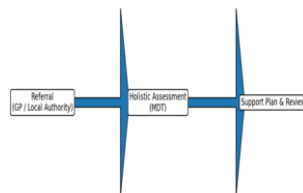


Figure 1: Community Disability Services Care Pathway

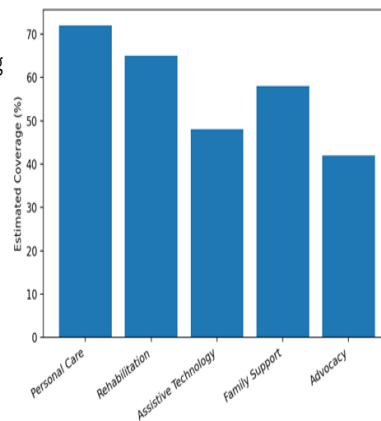


Figure 2: Types of support provided by Community Disability Services

Currently, Community Disability Services operate through multidisciplinary teams (MDTs) that include nurses, social workers, occupational therapists, physiotherapists, psychologists, and voluntary sector organisations. Referrals are commonly made via general practitioners, local authorities, or through self-referral. Following referral, a holistic assessment identifies health, social, and environmental needs, leading to the co-production of personalised care and support plans. Regular reviews ensure continuity and responsiveness to changing needs (NHS England, 2019; NICE, 2022).

Despite their importance, Community Disability Services face significant challenges. One major challenge is funding pressure and workforce shortages, resulting in long waiting times and regional inequalities in service provision (King's Fund, 2023). A second challenge is fragmented coordination between health and social care systems, which can disrupt continuity of care, particularly during transitions such as from childhood to adult services (Glasby and Dickinson, 2014).

Task 2: Community Antenatal Midwifery Services (Essay)

Community antenatal midwifery services in the United Kingdom originated from early public health reforms addressing maternal mortality in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. The midwives Act 1902 formalized professional regulation, improving safety standards (Leap and Hunter, 2013). Following the establishment of the NHS in 1948, antenatal care became universally accessible.

Historically, high maternal and infant mortality rates shaped service development. Community-based midwives provided monitoring, education, and early intervention. Contemporary services align with NICE guidelines promoting evidence-based antenatal pathways (NICE,2021).

Today, community antenatal midwives deliver care through booking appointments, routine screening, safeguarding assessment, and health promotion. They collaborate with obstetricians, GPs, and health visitors. Digital records and continuity models aim to personalize care (NHS England, 2019).

Community antenatal midwifery services significantly enhance quality of life by promoting informed choice, early risk detection, breastfeeding support, and safeguarding vulnerable families. Evidence demonstrates improved maternal confidence and reduced preterm births when consistent midwifery care is provided (NICE,2021).

Critically, workforce pressures and inequalities in access remain in concerns (The King's Fund ,2022). However,continuity models have shown improved satisfaction and outcomes.

The significance of community antenatal services lies in early detection of complications, and mental health support and empowerment through education.By promoting prevention and informed choice, community antenatal midwifery enhances maternal wellbeing, reduces health inequalities, and strengthened family resilience (Public Health England,2018).

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