**Title: Using Photo Elicitation to study a Novel In-reach Rehabilitation and Recovery Mental Health Service**

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**Purpose:** The study aimed to address the research question: *“What are the experiences of service users and staff who use or work within a novel in-reach Rehabilitation and Recovery Service for people with severe and enduring mental health needs?”*

**Background:** The Service provides a stepped intensive, inpatient rehabilitation pathway to support return to the community. The goal is to create less reliance on inpatient care through implementation of recovery-focused principles.

**Methods:** Photo elicitation is being conducted with a purposive sample of service users and staff to explore their experience of the new Service. Photo elicitation is a method in which participants are invited to take photographs to help share their experiences during interview. Interviews were analysed using Interpretative Phenomenological Analysis. A pilot study involving three participants - two members of staff and one service user - has been completed.

**Findings & Conclusions:** As an almost universally used medium, photography is proving to be well suited to working with vulnerable people as well as with staff at the Service. In particular, participants engaged deeply with the interview process through the photographs and described the method as surprisingly evocative. The interviews with staff were longer and more detailed than that with the service user, but the service user provided extremely interesting information, enjoyed the photography, and discussed photographs on a sophisticated metaphorical level. Photographs will be presented to discuss the benefits of this method and to consider in detail the use made of photographs between service users and staff.