



IRISi NEWS

Jan-Apr 2024
Vol.18



IRISi LAUNCHES ITS NATIONAL REPORT 2022-2023:

UP TO MARCH 2023, IRIS AND ADVISE PROGRAMMES RECEIVED 36,352 REFERRALS!

IRISi recently launched our latest [National Report](#), encompassing all the data and insights gathered from sites running the IRIS Programme and the ADVISE Programme across England, Wales, the Channel Islands and Northern Ireland up to March 2023.

We are proud to highlight that, through our collaborative efforts, we have received 36,352 referrals – signifying that 36,352 service users were identified during consultations with IRIS-trained GPs or ADVISE sexual health-trained clinicians, and subsequently referred to an Advocate Educator, a domestic abuse specialist embedded in clinical settings to provide support.

Since we launched IRISi in 2017, we have been at the forefront of developing and implementing evidence-based programmes to improve the healthcare response to gender-based violence. We aim to foster awareness within healthcare settings and provide a clear pathway for healthcare professionals to better identify and refer their patients to specialist services.

Here are some key findings:

- From April 2022 to March 2023, IRIS and ADVISE were commissioned and operational in 40 areas across the UK.
- Our network received a total of 6,333 referrals.
- Our network ran 728 training sessions, with over 3,450 individuals participating in one or more sessions.
- Data on abuse were collected from 4,487 service users, with 87% experiencing multiple types of abuse concurrently.
- 44% of the service users referred faced mental health challenges or problematic substance use.
- 245 service users were recorded as having experienced non-fatal strangulation.
- Over 3,300 service users referred to the IRIS or ADVISE programmes received emotional support from their Advocate Educator.

[Click here to read it in full](#)

IRIS+ Programme: amplifying the healthcare response to Domestic Abuse; £2.2M for clinical trial to improve general practice response to men and children affected by domestic abuse

IRISi is pleased to share the findings of our collaborative research with the University of Bristol, evaluating the IRIS+ domestic abuse programme. The recently published study, available for [full reading here](#), has shown promising feasibility and potential cost-effectiveness. This may mark a significant advancement in addressing the broader spectrum of domestic violence and abuse (DVA) affecting men, children and young people through primary care.

IRIS+ builds upon the successful IRIS model, renowned for its effectiveness in identifying and supporting women affected by domestic abuse. Recognising a gap in the identification and referral processes for men, children, and young people, researchers from Bristol's [Centre for Academic Primary Care](#), in collaboration with IRISi and DVA agencies, have developed and rigorously tested the IRIS+ intervention to address this crucial need. [READ MORE>>](#)



Following the publication of the feasibility study results, the clinical trial of IRIS+ was announced to begin in May 2024 thanks to a £2.2 million National Institute for Health and Care Research (NIHR) award to University of Bristol researchers, in partnership with Oxford University and IRISi.

IRIS resumes in North West London

The IRIS Programme, developed by [IRISi](#), has officially recommenced in North West London! General Practices in Westminster, Hammersmith and Fulham can now re-enrol in the initiative, benefiting from Domestic Abuse training and gaining access to a streamlined referral pathway to a dedicated specialist from [Advance](#), the local frontline service operating in this area in partnership with IRISi. While training sessions significantly enhance clinicians' knowledge in identifying and responding to signs of Domestic Abuse, the role of the IRIS Advocate Educator is essential. This specialist worker is embedded in the healthcare settings, collaboratively working with clinical teams, receiving referrals and providing patient support tailored to their needs. [READ MORE>>](#)

#DonateForABrighterFuture: a call to action to amplify our impact and secure funding

Join IRISi in our mission for equitable access to vital support across the UK. Help us overcome the postcode lottery in accessing life-saving resources. Donate now to ensure sustainable funding for existing programmes and expand our reach nationwide. Together, we can create a brighter future, free from harm and fear.

[CLICK HERE TO DONATE FOR A
BRIGHTER FUTURE](#)

WOULD YOU LIKE TO GIVE US A HAND?

Do you have something to share about IRISi, IRIS or ADVISE - such as the impact of the intervention, suggestions or feedback? We would love to hear from you! Please email us at: geisa.davo@irisi.org.

CLICK BELOW TO FOLLOW US:

