

# **Managing your Long Term Condition**

For more information on courses, and access to referral forms please log on to www.amh.org.uk/services/managing-the-challenge/

**Completed Referral forms can be returned to:** 

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# **Managing your Long Term Condition**



Learn to manage a long term health condition

**Set Goals** 

Make Positive Changes

Improve Quality of Life!

### What is Self Management?

Self management is about living the best life that you can in spite of having a health condition. Whether it's a physical, mental or emotional condition, self management is about you being actively involved in your recovery and developing skills that can enable you to overcome your problems rather than worrying about them. You will understand your condition and symptoms better and learn new techniques to manage and improve your health. You will set goals for yourself and improve your confidence levels, which in turn will assist you in improving your overall quality of life

#### The Problem

Living with health conditions such as Asthma, Diabetes, MS, Depression, Epilepsy, Fibromyalgia, Pain, Heart Conditions, Cancer, COPD etc. can be very challenging. Dealing with their symptoms and effects can seem like life has become a constant cycle of set-backs and negativity. Your ill health takes over your life for the worse.

### **Self Management Course**

"Managing Your Long Term Condition" is a licensed self management course running throughout the Western Health and Social Care Trust area. It is FREE to anyone over 18 years old with a health condition who wish to better manage their condition or to carers who wish the same for their loved one. The course offers the following topics:

Pain Management Techniques
Physical Activity
Healthy Eating
Action Planning
Depression Management
Better Breathing

Relaxation Skills
Dealing with Difficult Emotions
Communication Skills
Problem Solving
Positive Thinking

These skills can help break the negative cycle and put in place better techniques that could lead to positive outcomes for you. You may feel more empowered, confident and positive about life overall

#### **Course Duration**

The course has 6 sessions, which take place on the same day of the week for 6 weeks. Each session lasts 2.5 hours. All courses are delivered by two trainers in a group setting of 8-16 people. Trainers have experience of living with a long term condition themselves or working with people that have health conditions. Trainers have been expertly trained to deliver the course and use the licensed course manual to ensure high quality self management training

## The Group

The group is made up of people like you who have long term conditions and understand what it is like to deal with symptoms and problems. Group participants are the experts on their own condition. They know what triggers their symptoms and also what works well for them. This experience is invaluable. The support of the group means you are no longer alone.

#### **How to Access Courses**

Courses run throughout the Western Health and Social Care Trust area which include, Limavady, Derry / Londonderry, Strabane, Omagh, Enniskillen and other venues in County Fermanagh.

You can access a course by contacting your local health condition support group, GP, Community Health Team, or for more information and referral forms, logon to:

www.amh.org.uk/services/managing-the-challenge/