



Improving patient safety

Overview:

Wessex Patient Safety Collaborative (PSC) comprises all the NHS providers and commissioners across the region, including hospitals, mental health and community organisations, the ambulance service, primary care, and clinical commissioning groups. The PSC has three objectives: to develop quality improvement (QI) capability, to encourage patient, family, and carer involvement in improvement and to facilitate the development of a positive safety culture.

The issue:

Patient Safety Collaboratives were borne out of Professor Don Berwick's 2014 report, A Promise to Learn: A Commitment to Act. This report called for the NHS "to become, more than ever before, a system devoted to continual learning and improvement of patient care, top to bottom and end to end."

Our work programme is informed by the NHS Patient Safety Strategy and the National Patient Safety Improvement Programmes (known as NatPatSIP), which are led by NHS England and NHS Improvement.

What we did:

We worked with our system partners to deliver the five priority Safety Improvement Programmes (SIPs) set out in the NHS Patient Safety Strategy. Key themes included addressing inequalities, patient and carer co-design, safety culture, improvement leadership, building capacity and capability, and measurement for improvement.

Our case studies represent some of our work to support a culture of safety, continuous learning and sustainable improvement across the healthcare system:

► **You can read the case studies at wessexahsn.org.uk/projects/505/case-studies**





What impact did it have?

We developed and matured Patient Safety Networks as the main route for delivering the following Safety Improvement Programmes.:

Deterioration

Won the **HSJ Patient Safety Award 2021** (as part of the AHSN Network) for supporting the implementation of Covid Oximetry @home

Addressed inequalities with co-produced adaptations to a physical deterioration and escalation tool, RESTORE2mini, for learning disability, domiciliary and prison healthcare settings

RESTORE2 and pulse oximetry videos viewed over **1 million times**.

Maternity and neonatal

Supported Wessex maternity and neonatal units to reduce the incidence of cerebral palsy in newborns through administration of magnesium sulphate to **84% of clinically eligible women** in pre-term labour

Supported teams working on smoke-free pregnancy and optimisation of the pre-term infant, and to prepare for the national maternity and newborn early warning scores.

Medicines safety

Developed NHS Business Services Authority prescribing comparators dashboard to reduce harm from long-term non-cancer opioid medication.

Mental health

Engaged **19 acute wards** across the region to trial changes to reduce restrictive practice in inpatient mental health and learning disability settings.

Adoption and spread

Supported organisations to deliver discharge bundles for patients with asthma and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD). Wessex achieved above the national average in all elements, with five trusts **achieving at least 90%** in two or more elements of the asthma discharge care bundle.





“All care home staff should be trained in how to identify and respond to residents who deteriorate medically. The RESTORE-2 tool has been used successfully by many care home staff during the pandemic and is useful even when staff are not trained to measure or record vital signs.”

Covid-19: Managing the Covid-19 pandemic in care homes
British Geriatrics Society (bgs.org.uk)

Strategic alignment



Want to find out more?

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