

Preventing prescribing errors with PINCER



What is the innovation?

Helping people get the most from their medicines through use of proven Clinical Audit tools



Why are we doing it?

Aim is to help patients get the maximum benefit from their medicines and reduce the risk of medication errors

PINCER – Pharmacist-led Information technology iNtervention for the reduction of Clinically important ERrors in medicines management in general practice – is a methodology for reducing medication errors, and improving medication safety.



PINCER was evaluated in a multicentre, cluster randomised, controlled trial and the evidence of its outcomes (rates of specific prescribing errors **reduced by up to 50%**) and cost-effectiveness analysis were published in *The Lancet* (2012)

In 2015, NICE Guidance NG5 recommended PINCER as a system for identifying, reporting and learning from medication related patient safety incidents

In February 2018, the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) short-life working group report on reducing Medication-Related Harm recommended the national adoption in primary care of proven interventions such as PINCER



Implementing PINCER in general practices across England will also support the NHS responsibility in relation the WHO Global challenge of **reducing medication errors by 50% over the 5 years from 2017**

In January 2019, the new GP framework contract states “the nationally-backed roll-out of the pharmacist-led information technology intervention for medical errors (PINCER or equivalent) by the AHSNs” should be implemented as part of a new medication safety Quality Improvement (QOF) Module



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What was delivered 2018-19?

- 203 practices in 8 CCGs implemented up to end of December 2018
 - Monthly calls between all AHSN PINCER teams to keep up to date with the programme at a national level
 - Enhanced PINCER training was attended by 64 primary care staff from 7 CCGs in Wessex
- Training covered Root Cause Analysis and Quality Improvement methodology to improve medication safety in line with PINCER principles
- Data showing each CCGs level of up take as well as error levels in each of the 13 safety indicators will be shared across Wessex

Plans for 2019-20:

- Plan to continue implementation across all Wessex CCGs. All 9 CCGs have agreed to be part of the AHSN wide rollout in 19/20
- Embed the use of PINCER in those practices where they have already implemented the intervention
- Training events covering Root Cause Analysis and quality improvement methodology will run in 19/20 to support CCG and practice staff to implement PINCER fully
- Sharing Days will be held to support sharing experiences between local AHSN teams
- Continue to review results of PINCER implementation in order to understand common themes and address through learning

