

Medicines Optimisation Legacy Programme: Supporting Adoption of TCAM*



What we do

We support secondary care and pharmacy systems with the safe discharge of patients. The system refers patients to community pharmacy on discharge with information about medication changes made in hospital



Why are we doing it?

Communicating changes related to medicines for patients on discharge has been proven to reduce avoidable readmissions

Wessex AHSN worked with trusts and Local Pharmaceutical Committees to set up a secure electronic interface between hospital IT systems and PharmOutcomes, the community pharmacy system used in their area, to provide patient data quickly and seamlessly to their community pharmacist.

This original Transfer of Care around Medicines (TCAM) national programme was led by Wessex AHSN. This scheme had a clear impact on medication safety and reducing avoidable readmissions, which led directly to the nationally commissioned NHS Discharge Medicines Service (DMS) which launched in February 2021.

Over the last year, as a legacy to the commissioned programme of work, we have focused on helping the remaining trusts to go live with the service. We have also focused on sustaining those who already have the service in place to improve the quality and number of referrals so that all patients can benefit.

From April 2022, acute trusts are incentivised to provide 'timely communication of changes to medicines to community pharmacists via the discharge medicines service' in the Commissioning for Quality and Innovation (CQUIN) Scheme. This will provide a financial incentive to those trusts that have not yet implemented the DMS and those who are not using it for a large cohort of their patients, as well as reward those trusts that have operated this service for several years.

*Now the national NHS Discharge Medicines Service)To improve communication of changes to a patient's medication when they leave hospital and to reduce incidences of avoidable harm caused by medicines and reduce readmissions.

Medicines Optimisation Legacy Programme: Supporting Adoption of TCAM*



Two national round table events held to capture insights from implementing the DMS



Over **15,000** patients in Wessex have been referred on discharge from hospital to community pharmacy



7 hospital trusts in Wessex are participating in the DMS



Round table report viewed/
downloaded

140 times



Round table video viewed/
downloaded

150 times



What we delivered in 2021-22:

- Continued to support DMS in Wessex during 2021/22. As in the previous year, the DMS supported the safe discharge of patients from hospital prior to each Covid-19 wave
- Supported the first community hospital go-live with DMS, alongside the acute trusts already using the service
- Worked with Portsmouth Hospitals University NHS Trust to implement PharmOutcomes for their DMS referrals
- Launched DMS at Lymington Hospital, part of Southern Health NHS Foundation Trust
- Ran two national round table events to capture the lessons learned in implementing this service. The first event, for acute trusts, produced a video and report (available at wessexahsn.org.uk). The second event focused on community and mental health trusts (resources also available)
- Completed an AHSN-supported project at Hampshire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust to refer all patients on anticoagulation medicine to their community pharmacist for support and counselling
- Hosted an education event to share the work from Hampshire Hospitals, alongside audit work undertaken at University Hospital Southampton NHS Foundation Trust and patient stories demonstrating the positive impact of this service.



Plans for 2022-23:

- Provide ongoing support to trusts to achieve the 2022/23 Discharge Medicines Service CQUIN, and hand over to ICS Community Pharmacy Integration Leads when appointed
- Continue to support the implementation of the NHS Discharge Medicines Service in Portsmouth
- Publish a report and video of the second national round table event, capturing the lessons learned on community and mental health trusts (available early 2022-23).

“This is important work – which the AHSN Network has been at the heart of implementing – to improve patient care, reduce the burden on our hospitals and, importantly, ensure that community pharmacy is able to play its full role in the medicines pathway.”

Clare Howard

Clinical lead for the Wessex AHSN medicines optimisation programme

“Reduced readmission rates sparked our interest and we felt a duty of care to do this. It was good to have AHSNs involved presenting data on the impact rates. Without this, we wouldn’t normally have heard of TCAM.”

Chief Pharmacist

NHS Healthcare Trust providing integrated hospital and community services



About the Academic Health Science Network

Wessex Academic Health Science Network (AHSN) is one of **15 AHSNs** across England, established by NHS England in 2013 to spread innovation at pace and scale - improving health and generating economic growth.



The region's life sciences industry employs **9,000** and has a turnover of **£2.5 billion**



10% of the workforce in Wessex is employed in the health economy



We've supported over **250 innovations** in 2021-22, including clinicians, academics and commercial innovators



The region's population of **3 million** is served by **2*** Integrated Care Systems

*Plus Salisbury and South Wilts

8 local authorities

11 NHS service providers and **7** higher education institutions



Our input has been attributed to the creation or safeguarding of **180.5 jobs** in the last two years



We've directly supported Wessex innovators to achieve over **£56 million** in sales, grants and investment in the last two years



Working with Wessex CRN we have brought together **4 academic/commercial bid teams** for clinical research



Want to find out more?

[@WessexAHSN](https://twitter.com/WessexAHSN)
[wessexahsn.org.uk](https://www.wessexahsn.org.uk)
enquiries@wessexahsn.net