

## Quality Network Upcoming Projects 2023

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One of the great potential benefits of our QI Network is to share resources, learning and best practice and work on improving common themes together. In true QI fashion, we would like to start small and learn what works best as we grow this capacity.

We appreciate it's been a while since the network formed and we have not managed to spread a topic across the network and start this process, but we do now feel the time is right. Our initial thoughts were to have one quick topic to 'test the pipes' over a few months and see where the gaps in the regional and local network are, which we can then identify and 'fix' before rolling out a larger project. In discussion with the QIWG and some of our regional leads, we have proposed two topics for us to engage departments in the coming year:

### 1. [Prep, Stop, Block](#)

Over the last 10 months or so, a lot of awareness has been raised about this SOP which follows the previous 'Stop before you block' initiative to avoid wrong site regional blocks. Despite the campaign, the problem remains and wrong site blocks are still the commonest never event or adverse event reported:

- [Data from NHS England](#)
- [Data from NHS Wales](#)
- [Data from Healthcare Improvement Scotland](#)
- [Data from Northern Ireland Department of Health](#)

It would be great if the Quality Network can help to minimise this. Most departments will have done some work on this, such as local teaching sessions, creating posters, launching QI projects etc. so this would be a useful first topic, because we think there will be lots of resources out there to share.

### 2. [Unrecognised oesophageal intubation](#)

This has also been highlighted as a safety issue recently, with coroners' reports over several years highlighting the steps anaesthetists should take to recognise this potentially fatal event. The College has produced some resources in the past, including a [video](#) in 2018 and [flash cards](#), and the 'No trace=wrong place' message is one we would like to spread nationally to all trusts. This is a really important topic that many anaesthetic departments will want to work on.

## **Initial plan for these QI Network Projects:**

We will be asking regional leads within the QI Network to get in contact with their local anaesthetic departments to share the work they have been doing on these topic areas. For example, this might include asking them to share their resources- like teaching slides, posters, audit templates or similar. It could also include asking departments to share what has been learned- have any improvement approaches helped? Is there anything that they feel works particularly well, or not so well, to improve things?

Potential actions for the QI Network as part of the projects:

- Gathering resources into shared folders so that local department QI leads can access them.

- The network could facilitate online meetings for interested departmental leads to discuss their work further.
- Helping to produce a thematic report.

## **Next steps**

We will be in contact next month with further details on the first project Prep, Stop, Block that we aim to launch in January 2023. In the interim, we would recommend that you check whether you have the contact details of departmental QI Leads within your region. Please get in contact with [qualityimprovement@rcoa.ac.uk](mailto:qualityimprovement@rcoa.ac.uk) if you need any assistance