

A Look Back at the Quality Network Event on 7 February 2023

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The Quality Network Regional Leads meeting took place on 7th February 2023 and brought together members from across the United Kingdom for the first in-person meeting since September 2019. It was a fantastic opportunity to gather feedback on the Quality Improvement Working Group's (QIWG) recent 'Prep, Stop, Block' project, network with colleagues and listen to guest-speakers.

A key message from the meeting was the value of collaboration and communication between members and organisations to create an environment for change. This theme was echoed by the presentations given throughout the day.

Guest speakers

Dr Elly Warwick, PQIP Fellow, began by explaining the PQIP Associate Principal Investigator Collaboration and introduced the possibilities of working with the Quality Network on future educational material.

Dr Hesham Abdalla presented on Hexitime, a skills-exchange timebank platform that could help facilitate quality improvement (QI) networking.

Professor Simon Conroy from NHS Elect joined to describe how he led the creation of the Acute Frailty Network and gave important insights into how we could develop the Quality Network to promote and facilitate future QI.

We also heard from Dr Greg Warren from the Centre for Perioperative Care (CPOC). He described the fertile ground that perioperative care provides for QI and highlighted CPOC's role in promoting good practice and QI.

Our final speaker was Dr Gethin Pugh, Vice-Chair of the RCoA Anaesthetics Curriculum Assurance & Development Group (ACDAG). He updated the group on QI developments within the RCoA curriculum, particularly regarding the 'Safety and Quality Improvement' special interest area.



Dr Hesham Abdalla presented on the Hexitime platform

Group discussions

Dr Carolyn Johnston, Chair of the QIWG, introduced the discussion on the recent 'Prep, Stop, Block' (PSB) project that ran throughout January and February 2023. The project was aimed to test links between the network and gain an insight into how departments were implementing PSB.

Regional leads were asked to feedback on the project, triggering excellent debate. It was clear there was a variety of experiences with some regional leads finding it easier than others to communicate with local departments. Unsurprisingly, those with established links in their region found conducting the project more straightforward. Creating and nurturing relationships between leads will be a key aim of the network going forward.

Local context was also a key area of debate. Departments vary significantly in the clinical work they carry out, their capacity to conduct QI and the presence of dedicated QI leads. Adapting how we conduct future projects within the Quality Network with this in mind is essential.

Fostering social connections was another theme of the day. Some leads felt that encouraging face-to-face or virtual meetings between regional and local leads beforehand would have facilitated the project. Encouraging these connections was also relevant when considering future QI educational material.

Dr Lesley Jordan, Vice-Chair of the QIWG, updated the group with the initial ideas for future QI training material, including webinar series and larger events. Topics explored in the discussion that followed included the value of in-person teaching and considering the best audience of any material produced. Taking advantage of current teaching resources and focusing on anchoring learning back to the curriculum were also clear priorities for the group.

Looking forward

Guest speakers and the discussion throughout the regional leads meeting provided an excellent opportunity for feedback and reflection on the network's plans. Whilst the details of this work are still being refined, working collaboratively with other organisations and improving personal connections within the Quality Network is essential to nurture improvement and ultimately, improve patient care.



Dr Greg Warren discussed CPOC and its role in promoting good practice and QI.