

NHS Wales National Clinical Audit and Outcome Review Plan

Annual Rolling Programme from 2022/23

June 2022

The annual National Clinical Audit and Outcomes Review Plan confirms the list of National Clinical Audits and Outcome Reviews all health boards and trusts are expected to participate in 2022-23 (where they provide the service). The plan confirms how the findings from audits and reviews will be used to measure and drive forward improvements in the quality and safety of healthcare services in Wales.

Section 1 of the National Health Service (Wales) Act 2006 places a duty on the Welsh Ministers to continue the promotion of a comprehensive health service designed to secure improvement in the physical and mental health of the people of Wales. Section 2 of that Act empowers Welsh Ministers to do anything which is calculated to facilitate, or is conducive or incidental to, the discharge of that duty.

1. What do we want to achieve?

NHS Wales needs to be a learning organisation, which regularly seeks to measure the quality of its services against consistently improving standards and, in comparison with other healthcare systems across the UK, Europe and the World. This measurement should be used to set improvement priorities.

The Welsh Government and NHS Wales are committed to the principles of value-based healthcare to help meet the challenges of rising costs and increasing demand, while continuing to improve the quality of care.

Clinical audit is an integral component of the quality improvement process and is embedded within the Welsh healthcare standards.

2. The programme of audits

The agreed NHS Wales programme of audits includes the majority of audits currently supported by the National Clinical Audit and Patients Outcome Programme (NCAPOP) managed by the Healthcare Quality Improvement Partnership (HQIP), but can also include a number of other national or multi-organisational audits recognised as being essential.

The Clinical Outcome Review Programme (formerly Confidential Enquiries) is commissioned by HQIP on behalf of the Welsh Government, NHS England, NHSSPS Northern Ireland, ISD Scotland and the Channel Island and Isle of Man governments. The programme is designed to help assess the quality of healthcare and stimulate improvement in safety and effectiveness by

systematically enabling clinicians, managers and policy makers to learn from adverse events and other relevant data.

The final agreed list of audits and reviews is published annually. The programme for 2022-23 is attached at Annex A.

3. How will participation, learning and action on findings be encouraged throughout Wales?

Continued encouragement of audit:

- Feedback relating to the benchmarked performance of individual providers within clinical audits and reviews to organisations as appropriate for reflection and action.
- By raising the profile of clinical audit with boards, patient groups, clinicians and all staff working within the NHS. To include, organisational visits and liaison with professional bodies in Wales to encourage audit amongst their disciplines and specialism.
- Developing closer partnerships working with health boards/trusts clinical audit teams to improve knowledge and understanding of national and local audit/review activities.
- Working in partnership with other healthcare organisations e.g. Public Health Wales, Digital Health and Care Wales (DHCW) to promote and encourage a culture of participation in audit and action on findings.

Identifying areas needing a national approach to improvement:

- Reviewing common issues for all Welsh healthcare providers arising from audit and reviews and sharing solutions.
- By ensuring the findings and recommendations from audits are fully considered by the appropriate national advisory groups/networks.
- Working in partnership, via HQIP and with audit project teams to ensure the provision of Welsh-specific findings and potential solutions, and develop and organise workshops and events to disseminate them.

Addressing clinical services where performance may give cause for concern:

- Clearly identifying the comparative performance of individual provider organisations and understanding the reasons for any disparity.
- Ensuring issues are considered in regular performance review meetings between health boards/trusts and in Welsh Government Quality Delivery Board meetings.
- Protocol confirming the arrangements for the identification and handling of organisations identified in audits and reviews as being “Outliers” including such activity designed to improve and encourage quality improvement.

Greater transparency:

- By seeking to improve the way in which the findings, recommendations and improvement actions from audit and reviews are made available to patients, public and all staff working in the NHS.

4. What is the Role of Welsh Government?

In partnership with NHS England and HQIP, the Welsh Government supports and funds the cost of NHS Wales' participation in the National Clinical Audit and Clinical Outcome Review Programme. The Welsh Government along with DHCW will seek to encourage greater participation and learning from clinical audits and reviews leading to improved services, better patient outcomes and safer patient care.

The Welsh Government is a member of the NCAPOP Partners Group and provides the Welsh Government's position and context to ensure the audits align with the long-term plan in Wales.

5. What is the Role of Digital Health and Care Wales

DHCW has become the joint data controller with HQIP for the delivery of any audits commissioned by HQIP as part of NCAPOP.

As part of its Statutory functions as a Special Health Authority, Welsh Government has requested that DHCW identify data sharing opportunities to support clinicians and networks in Wales and provide advice and support to health boards.

6. What are the responsibilities of Welsh health boards and trusts?

Welsh health boards and trusts should provide the resources to enable their staff to participate in all audits, reviews and national registers included in the annual plan (where they provide the service). They should ensure the full audit cycle is completed and that findings and recommendations from audit link directly into the quality improvement programme and lead to improved patient care and outcomes.

To ensure the maximum benefit is derived from the clinical audit programme health boards and trusts should:

- Ensure the necessary resources, governance and organisational structures are in place to support complete engagement in audits, reviews and national registers included in the annual Plan.
- Appoint a clinical lead to act as a champion and point of contact for every National Clinical Audit and Outcome Review, which the health board is participating in. Health boards and trusts should also encourage and support clinical leads to take on the role of all-Wales representative on audit steering groups and networks where required.

- Ensure there is a formally recognised process for reviewing the organisations performance when reports are published. This review should include consideration of improvements (planned and delivered) and an escalation process to ensure the executive board is made aware when issues around participation, improvement and risk identification against recommendation are identified.
- Have clear lines of communication, which ensures full board engagement in the consideration of audit and review of findings and, where required, the change process to ensure improvements in the quality and safety of services take place.
- Work with DHCW to facilitate the wider use of data from audit and national registries to be used as supporting information for medical revalidation and peer review.
- Ensure learning from audit and review is shared across the organisation and communicated to staff and patients.
- Existing Data Sharing Agreements between the Health Boards and NHS Trusts shall be utilised for the information sharing event, and this should be documented on the National Information Flows Register as held by DHCW.
- DHCW, Local Health Boards and the Trusts shall produce such Data Privacy Impact Assessments (DPIAs) as may be necessary to comply with the GDPR where new identifiable data is to be shared or otherwise processed.

In previous years health boards were tasked with completing a proforma to provide to Welsh Government for each published audit report. As the audit process has matured, audit results feed into a range of networks and policy development and as such it has been determined these proformas are an additional layer, which are no longer required. From 2022/23 routine proformas to the Welsh Government for every audit will no longer be required. Welsh Government policy officials may ask for feedback when required.

7. How Will We Measure Success?

By year on year consideration of audit reports and in comparison with other UK, European and International healthcare systems to determine how compliance with best practice and achievement of healthcare outcomes compares to national and international benchmarks.

The following key criteria will also be used for judging success:

- 100% participation, appropriate levels of case ascertainment and submission of complete data sets by all health boards and trusts (where applicable) in the full programme of National Clinical Audits and Clinical Outcome Reviews.

- Less variation between local services and measurable year on year improvements in performance to achieve the highest standards. Organisations recognised as being above the audit “average” or within the top quartile for each audit and maintaining that level.
- Improvements in the quality and safety of patient outcomes and experience brought about by learning and action arising from the findings of National Clinical Audit and Clinical Outcome Review reports.

8. How Will We Maintain Success?

The audit and quality improvement approach has the advantage of engaging those placed to make change and those expected to deliver and maintain change on a daily basis. This approach has a demonstrated track record of delivering and maintaining service improvement for a range of issues in a range of settings. Where there are expectations of delivering and maintaining better quality care and outcomes, the audit and quality improvement should be the normally used first-line approach.

9. Conclusion

The findings and recommendations from national clinical audit, outcome reviews and all other forms of reviews and assessments will be one of the principal mechanisms for assessing the quality and effectiveness of healthcare services provided by health boards and trusts in Wales.

In line with our stated ambition to develop a healthcare service that is recognised as being one of the best in the world, and to drive forward improvement, the clinical audit process will also be used to assess Welsh healthcare services against similar services being provided in other countries across the UK, Europe and Internationally.

Annex A

Annual Programme for 2022 - 23 of National Clinical Audit and Outcome Reviews in which all Welsh health boards and trusts must participate (where services are provided)

Acute	Audit website homepage	Contact	Collecting data in 2022/23
National Joint Registry	www.njrcentre.org.uk	enquiries@njrcentre.org.uk	Yes (W, E & NI)
National Emergency Laparotomy Audit *	www.nela.org.uk	info@rcoa.ac.uk	Yes (W & E)
Case Mix Programme (CMP)	www.icnarc.org	cmp@icnarc.org	Yes (W, E & NI)
Major Trauma Audit Trauma Audit and Research Network #	https://www.tarn.ac.uk/	support@tarn.ac.uk	Yes (W, E & NI)

Long Term Conditions	Audit website homepage	Contact	Collecting data in 2022/23
National Diabetes Audit *	General: https://digital.nhs.uk		(W & E)
Note this covers the following areas : National Diabetes Foot Care Audit	Footcare: https://digital.nhs.uk/data-and-information/clinical-audits-and-registries/national-diabetes-foot-care-audit	ndfa@nhs.net	Yes
• National Diabetes Inpatient Safety Audit (NDISA)	NaDia: https://digital.nhs.uk/data-and-information/clinical-audits-and-registries/national-diabetes-inpatient-audit	nadia@nhs.net	Yes
• National Pregnancy in Diabetes Audit	Pregnancy: https://digital.nhs.uk/data-and-information/clinical-audits-and-registries/national-pregnancy-in-diabetes-audit	npid@nhs.net	Yes
• National Diabetes	Core: https://digital.nhs.uk/data-	diabetes@nhs.net	Yes

Core Audit	and-information/clinical-audits-and-registries/national-diabetes-audit		
National Paediatric Diabetes Audit (NPDA) * #	www.rcpch.ac.uk/npda	npda@rcpch.ac.uk	Yes (W & E)
National Asthma and COPD Audit Programme (NACAP)* # Note this covers the following areas :	https://www.rcplondon.ac.uk/projects/national-copd-audit-programme	copd@rcplondon.ac.uk	Yes (W & E)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • COPD Secondary Care • Adult Asthma • Paediatric Asthma Secondary Care • Pulmonary Rehabilitation 	https://www.rcplondon.ac.uk/projects/national-asthma-and-copd-audit-programme-nacap-secondary-care-workstream-copd https://www.rcplondon.ac.uk/projects/national-asthma-and-copd-audit-programme-nacap-secondary-care-workstream-adult-asthma https://www.rcplondon.ac.uk/projects/national-asthma-and-copd-audit-programme-nacap-secondary-care-workstream-children-and-young https://www.rcplondon.ac.uk/projects/national-asthma-and-copd-audit-programme-nacap-pulmonary-rehabilitation-workstream		
Renal Registry (Renal Replacement Therapy) #	https://ukkidney.org/about-us/who-we-are/uk-renal-registry	renalregistry@renalregistry.nhs.uk	Yes (W, E & NI)
National Early Inflammatory Arthritis Audit * #	https://www.rheumatology.org.uk/Practice-Quality/Audits/NEIA-Audit	bsr@rheumatology.org.uk	Yes (W & E)
All Wales Audiology Audit #			Yes (Wales only)

Older People	Audit website homepage	Contact	Collecting data in 2022/23
Sentinel Stroke National Audit Programme (SSNAP) *	www.strokeaudit.org	ssnap@rcplondon.ac.uk	Yes (W, E & NI))
Falls and Fragility Fracture Audit Programme Including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> National Audit of Inpatient Falls National Hip Fracture Database Fracture Liaison Service Database *	https://www.rcplondon.ac.uk/projects/falls-and-fragility-fracture-audit-programme-ffap	FFFAP@rcplondon.ac.uk <u>Inpatient Falls</u> falls@rcplondon.ac.uk <u>Hip Fracture Database</u> nhfd@rcplondon.ac.uk Fracture Liaison Service Database FLSDB@rcplondon.ac.uk	Yes (W, E, NI))
National Audit of Dementia *	www.nationalauditofdementia.org.uk	nad@rcpsych.ac.uk	Yes (W & E)

End of Life	Audit website homepage	Contact	Collecting data in 2022/23
National Audit of Care at the End of Life (NACEL) *	https://www.nhsbenchmarking.nhs.uk/nacel	enquiries@nhsbenchmarking.nhs.uk	TBC (W & E)

Heart	Audit website homepage	Contact	Collecting data in 2022/23
National Cardiac Audit Programme (NCAP) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> National Heart Failure Audit * National Audit of Cardiac Rhythm Management * 	https://www.nicor.org.uk/ https://www.nicor.org.uk/national-cardiac-audit-programme/heart-failure-heart-failure-audit/ https://www.nicor.org.uk/national-cardiac-audit-programme/cardiac-rhythm-management-arrhythmia-audit/	nicor-auditenquiries@bartshealth.nhs.uk	(W & E) Yes Yes

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> National Adult Cardiac Surgery Audit* 	https://www.nicor.org.uk/national-cardiac-audit-programme/adult-cardiac-surgery-surgery-audit/		Yes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> National Audit of Percutaneous Coronary Interventions (PCI) (Coronary Angioplasty) * 	https://www.nicor.org.uk/adult-percutaneous-coronary-interventions-angioplasty-audit/		Yes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> National Congenital Heart Disease Audit * # 	https://www.nicor.org.uk/national-cardiac-audit-programme/congenital-heart-disease-in-children-and-adults-congenital-audit/		Yes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Myocardial Ischaemia National Audit Project (MINAP)* 	https://www.nicor.org.uk/national-cardiac-audit-programme/myocardial-ischaemia-minap-heart-attack-audit/		Yes
National Audit of Cardiac Rehabilitation	http://www.cardiacrehabilitation.org.uk/	corinna.petre@york.ac.uk	Yes (W, E & NI)
National Vascular Registry Audit *	www.vsqip.org.uk	nvr@rcseng.ac.uk	Yes

Cancer	Audit website homepage	Contact	Collecting data in 2022/23
National Lung Cancer Audit *	https://www.rcplondon.ac.uk/projects/national-lung-cancer-audit On 1 February 2022, the project transferred to the Royal College of Surgeons of England. It was previously run by the Royal College of Physicians.	nlca@rcplondon.ac.uk	Yes (W & E_)
National Prostate Cancer Audit *	www.npca.org.uk	npca@rcseng.ac.uk	Yes (W & E)
Gastrointestinal Cancer Audit Programme (GICAP) *			Yes (W & E)

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> National Bowel Cancer Audit 	www.nboca.org.uk	bowelcancer@nhs.net	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> National Oesophago-gastic Cancer Audit 	https://www.nogca.org.uk/	og.cancer@nhs.net	
National Audit of Breast Cancer in Older People (NABCOP) *	https://www.nabcop.org.uk/	nabcop@rcseng.ac.uk	Yes (W&E)

Women's and Children's Health	Audit website homepage	Contact	Collecting data in 2022/23
Paediatric Intensive Care Audit (PICaNet) * #	www.picanet.org.uk	picanet@leeds.ac.uk	Yes (UK)
National Neonatal Audit Programme Audit * #	www.rcpch.ac.uk/nnap	enquiries@rcpch.ac.uk	Yes (W & E)
National Maternity and Perinatal Audit * #	http://www.maternityaudit.org.uk/pages/home	nmpa@rcog.org.uk	Yes (W, E & S)
National Perinatal Mortality Review Tool	https://www.npeu.ox.ac.uk/pmrt	general@npeu.ox.ac.uk	Yes (W, E & S)

Other	Audit website homepage	Contact	Collecting data in 2022/23
National Clinical Audit of Seizures and Epilepsies for Children and Young People (Epilepsy12) * #	https://www.rcpch.ac.uk/work-we-do/quality-improvement-patient-safety/epilepsy12-audit	enquiries@rcpch.ac.uk	TBC
National Clinical Audit of Psychosis *	https://www.rcpsych.ac.uk/improving-care/ccqi/national-clinical-audits/national-clinical-audit-of-psychosis	NCAP@rcpch.ac.uk	Yes (W & EW)

(* denotes NCAPOP Audits)

(# denotes reports likely to include information on children and / or maternity services)

Clinical Outcomes Review Programme

The **Clinical Outcome Review Programme** (CORP) is designed to help assess the quality of healthcare, and stimulate improvement in safety and effectiveness by enabling learning from adverse events and other relevant data. It aims to complement and contribute to the work of other agencies such as NICE, the Royal Colleges and academic research studies, which support changes to improve NHS healthcare.

Without high quality data, improvement in clinical care is unlikely to occur. National clinical audits and outcome reviews are focused on areas of healthcare considered to be important, where there are often issues of concern and where national results are considered essential to improve practice and standards.

With the ability to measure against recognised standards and compare services on a local, regional or national basis, clinical audit and outcome reviews are very powerful tools for assessing the quality of services being provided. When used as part of the wider quality improvement cycle, they provide a strong mechanism for driving service change and improving patient outcomes, but full participation and a determination to learn from the findings is essential.

Service provider contracts for these programmes have been awarded to the following suppliers (links are provided to website homepages):

Clinical Outcomes Review Programme	Programme website homepage	Contact	Collecting data in 2022/23
Medical and Surgical Clinical Outcome Review Programme *	http://www.ncepod.org.uk/ To include: - Community acquired pneumonia - Crohn's Disease - Endometriosis - End of life care	ncepod@nhs.net	(W, E) Yes Yes Yes Yes
Mental Health Clinical Outcome Review Programme *	http://research.bmh.manchester.ac.uk/cmhs/research/centreforsuicideprevention/nci - National Confidential Inquiry into Suicide and Safety in Mental Health	ncish@manchester.ac.uk	(W, E) Yes

<p>Child Health Clinical Outcome Review Programme</p> <p>*#</p>	<p>http://www.ncepod.org.uk/</p> <p>- Transition from child to adult health services</p> <p>- Testicular torsion</p>	<p>ncepod@nhs.net</p>	<p>(W, E)</p> <p>Yes</p>
<p>Maternal, Newborn and Infant Clinical Outcome Review Programme</p> <p>*#</p>	<p>https://www.npeu.ox.ac.uk/mbrance-uk</p>	<p>general@npeu.ox.ac.uk</p>	<p>(UK)</p> <p>Yes</p>