

News from the Eastern Patient Safety Collaborative – June 2019

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## Come and say hello at the Patient Safety Congress

The PSC team are getting ready to attend the Patient Safety Congress next week. If you are attending, we would love to see you at the Patient Safety Collaborative stand – so please come and say hello to me, Jill Houghton, Maternity Clinical Lead, and Tara Marshall, Deterioration Clinical Lead. We are particularly looking forward to hearing Dr Aidan Fowler's (National Director of Patient Safety) talk in the session "long-term strategy for patient safety: what does it mean for you?"

Another warm welcome to a new starter this month, as our team continues to grow to support all the amazing work going on across the collaborative. Miss Helen Pardoe joins the Eastern PSC team as our Emergency Laparotomy Clinical Lead. Watch out for a proper introduction and more about her role soon.

**Caroline Angel, Director – Patient Safety  
Eastern Patient Safety Collaborative (PSC)**

## News

### AHSN National emergency laparotomy event update

An emergency laparotomy is a surgical operation used for people with severe abdominal pain to find the cause of the problem and, in many cases, to treat it.

The Eastern Emergency Laparotomy Collaborative (ELC) seeks to share knowledge and ideas for quality improvement in emergency laparotomies and this month we are delighted to welcome new members Bedford Hospital NHS Trust, Ipswich Hospital NHS Trust, James Paget University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, West Suffolk NHS Foundation Trust and Lister Hospital (East and North Hertfordshire NHS Trust). The new members to the collaborative join Addenbrookes Hospital, Norfolk & Norwich University Hospital NHS Foundation Trust and Colchester Hospital.

On the 25th June, the Eastern ELC was represented at the national ELC event by NELA (National Emergency Laparotomy Audit) leads from Colchester, Norfolk and Norwich, Bedford and James Paget Hospitals. It was clear from the event that we have a wealth of experience and ideas for small change improvements within our regional collaborative. And it was the perfect opportunity to introduce our members to our new Regional ELC Clinical Lead, Helen Pardoe.

The event followed our first data submission, using regional aggregated NELA data, into the [AHSN dashboard](#). We look forward to including our latest members' data on the 1st July to build a regional picture, and start the process of comparison and identification of good practice.

Our next focus will be to work with trusts to identify how we can support the implementation of the ELC 6 Step Care Bundle and share the learning. So get your QI thinking caps on and roll up your sleeves. As Professor Rupert Pearse, co-author of the [EPOCH paper](#) said during his presentation at the National ELC event: "QI is hard and difficult. The more you can structure it, learn from colleagues who have already done it, the better you get". @ELCsavinglives

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## Emergency department (ED) checklist - supporting national use

Norfolk and Norwich University Hospital NHS Foundation Trust started a pilot of the ED Safety Checklist in their Minors and Ambulatory Care Unit this month, using the [Model for Improvement](#), and building on lessons learned from University Hospitals Bristol NHS Foundation Trust and West of England Patient Safety Collaborative's [ED Safety Checklist Toolkit](#).

As with any quality improvement project, the question of how to engage staff has come up. Similarly, an interesting article from the [BMJ Journal](#) highlights the top 10 challenges with the design and planning of improvement interventions, and it's no shock that communication runs throughout the list.

Tips from Bristol's trial were to keep regular communication throughout the life of the project and not to under-estimate the change management skills needed. Change may be difficult for some, and people will reach different stages at different times. But anything worth doing is never going to be particularly easy, so be patient!

We look forward to seeing the outcomes and learning from Norfolk's pilot.

West Suffolk NHS Foundation Trust (WSH) have also already adopted and implemented the Checklist and, as a paper-light trust, have integrated it within their Electronic Patient Record (EPR). They are now looking at how they can include the checklist as a new way of working, rather than an add-on to routine clinical care. We look forward to working with them to review the data, identify tools to help sustain improvement, and further engage with stakeholders to hold the gain of this improvement project.

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## New video helps to roll out PReCePT

PReCePT stands for Preventing Cerebral Palsy in Preterm Labour. The project is designed to reduce cerebral palsy in babies by administering magnesium sulphate (MgSO<sub>4</sub>) to mothers during preterm labour, at a cost of around £1 per individual dose. Preterm birth is the leading cause of brain injury and cerebral palsy, which has a lifelong impact on children and families.

This new video is part of the work we are doing to support the PReCePT project in acute trusts with neonatal units in the Eastern region. Please watch and share to help support this great project. Watch our [PReCePT video](#) below.



## Resources and opportunities



### ➤ JOIN: the Q Community and improve health and care quality across the UK

The Q community is made up of a diverse range of people including those at the front line of health and social care, patient leaders, managers, commissioners, researcher, policy makers and others. To join you'll need to demonstrate knowledge and experience of using different approaches to improve the quality of health and care and reflect on how you might benefit and contribute to the community. [Find out more >>](#)



### ➤ APPLY: Q Exchange funding programme

Last year Q piloted a funding programme for Q members, Q Exchange, and following from the success it will launch again in June. This year there is £600,000 funding available, jointly supported by the Health Foundation and NHS Improvement, which offers Q members the chance to develop project ideas and submit bids for up to £30,000. [Find out more >>](#)



## ASSESS: Join the Q Exchange shortlisting panel

Q and non-Q members are being invited to apply to be assessors on the shortlisting panel for the Q Exchange funding programme. The initiative is ideally looking for people who have a good understanding of the Q community and have some experience of assessing and/or decision making for funding applications. [Find out more and apply >>](#)



## LEARN: Human factors & safety culture in maternity

Safety culture is closely linked to clinical outcomes and human factors have risen to attention in maternity as key contributors to patient harm. Norfolk and Norwich NHS Foundation Trust have written a paper, which demonstrates that maternity-orientated human factors training can improve safety culture in maternity. [Read the article here >>](#)



## DEVELOP: Leadership development masterclasses

East of England NHS Leadership Academy is offering a range of leadership development masterclasses and OD interventions aiming to support and enhance the confidence, aspirations and resilience of leaders who are engaged in supporting the delivery of system transformation. [Discover the range of opportunities on offer >>](#)

## Thoughts and views

 [@TheEAHSN](#)

14 June 2019

Congratulations to midwife Alana Hunt and the team [@JamesPagetNHS](#) for winning our [@PReCePT\\_MgSO4](#) maternity unit of the month, recognising their great work in helping to reduce [#cerebralpalsy](#) in preterm babies.

 [@TheEAHSN](#)

23 May 2019

Happy birthday to @PReCePT\_MgSO4! Here are some of our #PReCePTPeople from the Eastern region, working together to reduce #cerebralpalsy in preterm births.

 @skillsforhealth

22 May 2019

#OurHealthHeroes is open to all types of health and care workers, teams and employers hospices, care homes, private healthcare, emergency care and specialist services! Who will you be nominating? 😊😊😎 <http://www.skillsforhealth.org.uk/ohh>.

## Connect and share

If you would like to suggest a story for the next newsletter or provide feedback please contact [improvement@eahsn.org](mailto:improvement@eahsn.org).

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