



HQIP

Healthcare Quality
Improvement Partnership

HEALTHCARE QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PARTNERSHIP

IMPACT REPORT

2023

**Measuring and improving our
healthcare services**

www.hqip.org.uk

National Clinical Audit and Patient Outcomes Programme





The Healthcare Quality Improvement Partnership (HQIP) commissions and manages the National Clinical Audit and Patient Outcomes Programme (NCAPOP) on behalf of NHS England and Welsh Government.

Every project within the NCAPOP has been established to address a clinical area (or areas) where healthcare improvement is required, and the common aim of each project is to have a positive impact on patient care.

Impact of NCAPOP

This compendium of the 'Impact of NCAPOP' provides a summary of just some of the key impacts the projects have had. This compendium covers impact reports submitted from April 2022 to March 2023 (the 'impacts' themselves occurred over a wider date range).

Impact has been categorised into the four categories listed below, and this compendium highlights key impacts against these categories for each project:

-  **NATIONAL**
How the project provides evidence of quality and outcomes of care nationally
-  **SYSTEM**
How the project supports policy development & management of the system
-  **LOCAL**
How the project stimulates quality improvement
-  **PUBLIC**
How the project is used by the public and the demand for it

Child mortality: NCMD studies published in high-impact journals from [BMJ](#) and [Nature](#). The Nature paper has been accessed over 31,000 times and is [in the top 1% of articles](#). The BMJ paper has been accessed 27,000 times and is [in the top 5% of articles](#).

Child mortality: NCMD publishes [thematic report on suicide](#), which is accessed around 5,000 times during the period and downloaded 1,500 times.

Arthritis: The [NEIAA short report on ethnicity](#) provided insight into the link between ethnicity and processes of care and outcomes. Data were available for 35,807 patients seen between May 2018- March 2020. The findings shows that people from Black, Asian and ethnic minority groups are more likely to experience worse outcomes.

Mental Health CORP: Highest risk immediately post-discharge: NHS England allocated [winter funding](#) to improve the care of post-discharge patients in England following our research (2020/2021 and 2021/2022).

CVDPrevent: Blood pressure (BP): The number of people with potentially undiagnosed hypertension has increased slightly (Mar 21= 1.2%; Mar 22= 1.4%)
Recovery of monitoring is happening but has still not reached pre-pandemic levels (Mar 20=89%; Mar 21=64%; Mar 22=79%)
Recovery of treatment to target has not yet reached pre-pandemic levels and falls short of national ambition of 80% (Mar 20=68%; Mar 21=46%; Mar 22=57%)

Prostate Cancer: The availability of the rapid dataset allowed the reporting of the impact of COVID-19 in 2020 in England:
From April-June 2020:

- 54% reduction in diagnoses
- 48% reduction in RPs
- 45% reduction in RT
- Since April 2020, a higher proportion of men have been diagnosed at stage IV
- After June 2020:
 - RT recovered above 2019 levels July-Sept 2020
 - Increased use of hypofractionation
 - Rise in enzalutamide, fall in docetaxel use

Vascular: The median delay between symptom and carotid endarterectomy (CEA) increased in 2021 at 13 days. This is the first increase from 12 days since 2016, possibly due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Child mortality: NCMD publishes [thematic report on perinatal events](#), which is accessed around 2,500 times

Paediatric critical care: Customised data collections are carried out and revised to collect clinical data items specific to an area of care or in response to local or national policy requirements or emergencies.

End of life:
Key findings :-
1. 73% of patients had an individualised plan of care (2022) (71% in 2019), but striving for higher compliance
2. There remains a gap in identifying the needs of families & others, particularly spiritual, cultural & religious
3. Specialist palliative care: face-to-face access 8 hours a day, 7 days a week in 60% of hospitals/sites (36% in 2019)

Psychosis: 2021/22: 60% of patients in England and 15% for Wales had outcome measures recorded at least twice. For England this is an increase of 38% since 2018/19.

Paediatric diabetes: Inequity in diabetes-related tech access persists, however the highest percentage increase in continuous glucose monitor use between 2019/20 and 2021/22 was amongst Black children and young people with Type 1 diabetes, from 11.7% in 2019/20 to 22.2% in 2021/22 - an increase of 94 %.

Child mortality: NCMD publishes [annual data release](#), which is accessed around 1,500 times.

Neonatal: In 2021, 43% of very preterm babies had their cord clamped at or after one minute, compared to 29% in 2020.
Evidence shows that waiting at least 60 seconds before clamping the umbilical cord reduces mortality by 32%.

Asthma/COPD: NHS England has requested pulmonary rehabilitation (PR) audit data to be used for nationwide dashboards.

Medical and Surgical CORP: Data from past reports have been used to capture [examples of healthcare inequalities - published](#) in a summary report in 2022

Emergency laparotomy: 91.3% of patients received had both consultant surgeon and consultant anaesthetist present in theatre in Year 8 (2020/21), compared to 85% in Year 4 (2016/17)

Emergency laparotomy: 86.8% of patients received an assessment of risk in Year 8 (2020/21), compared to 56% in Year 1 (2013/14).

Psychosis: 2021/22: 72% of patients in England and 33% in Wales began Early Intervention treatment within two weeks of referral.

Epilepsy: In 85% of Health Boards / Trusts adult neurologists were routinely involved in transitions to adult services, increased from 78% in 2018.

Neonatal: 73% of eligible babies had a documented medical follow up at the right time compared to 68% in 2020.

SYSTEM How the project supports policy development & management of the system

End of life: Regional gap analysis undertaken. NHSE pushing planning to regions and so will be useful tool from which regional priorities should flow

Asthma/COPD: Taskforce for Lung Health PR data tracker. Data from the 2021 Organisational Audit and 2021-22 Drawing Breath report is being used to update the latest Taskforce PR data tracker and can be viewed on [Pulmonary Rehabilitation for people with COPD | Taskforce for Lung Health \(blf.org.uk\)](#)

Child Health CORP: One recommendation from 'On the Right Course?' was that there should be a [national consent form](#) for children and young people undergoing cancer treatment - this has now been developed.

Child Health CORP: The paediatric critical care, Getting it Right First Time (GIRFT) report has made numerous references to 'Balancing the Pressures' (2020), a review of the care provided to children and young people receiving long-term ventilation.

Child Health CORP: The recommendations from 'On the Right Course?' (2018), a review of cancer services for children and young people, have informed the service [specifications for children's cancer services for Principal Treatment Centres and Paediatric Oncology Shared Care Units, which have now been published.](#)

Vascular: NVR results are used by the national commissioners for vascular surgery and often feed into discussions about the on-going reorganisation of vascular services in the UK and recovery of vascular services following the COVID-19 pandemic.

Paediatric diabetes: Results are used within dashboards of key metrics scrutinised by the NHSE Diabetes Transformation Team

Mental Health CORP: CQC guidance development for inspectors: ligature points, early follow up.

Medical and Surgical CORP: The GIRFT report on Respiratory Medicine, in October 2021, heavily referenced the 2017 NCEPOD report on non-invasive ventilation 'Inspiring Change'.

Medical and Surgical CORP: The Centre for Perioperative Care, working in partnership with Diabetes UK, has updated guidance for the care of people with diabetes undergoing elective and emergency surgery that encompasses the whole perioperative pathway. It was stated that "*The impetus for the collaboration arose from the recommendations of the NCEPOD report into the management of patients with diabetes undergoing surgery (Highs and Lows (2018)), CPOC was commissioned by the Academy of Medical Royal Colleges to develop this guidance.*"

End of life: Agreement reached with CQC on which are the key metrics to be used from NACEL to inform site visits/inspections

Child mortality: Successful pilot programme to demonstrate regional reporting for child death overview panels completed in the East of England.

Emergency laparotomy: NELA continue to support the Best Practice Tariff for Emergency Laparotomy for high-risk patients by providing participants with quarterly data.

Epilepsy: Epilepsy12 are represented on the new NHS England Epilepsy Oversight Group. Cohort 2 & 3 data packs were shared with the group reporting audit data at NHS region, ICS & Trust level to support policy and improvements in 4 priority areas of epilepsy care.

Neonatal: Reported metrics have been aligned with the [MatNeoSIP](#) goals and measurement in England, providing longer term QI support, quality assurance and national benchmarking to sustain the aims of MatNeoSIP.

Prostate Cancer: The findings from the NPCA have contributed to the NICE review and recent update of recommendations on using a 5-Tier, rather than 3-Tier, prostate cancer risk stratification (published in December 2021).

Prostate Cancer: Key peer reviewed publications since June 2021 include:

- [Impact of COVID-19 on the diagnosis and treatment of men with prostate cancer](#) Jan 2022
- [Urinary incontinence and the utilisation of incontinence surgery after radical prostatectomy.](#) Nov 2021
- [Hospital volume and outcomes after radical prostatectomy](#) Sept 2021
- [Determinants of variation in radical local treatment for men with high-risk localised or locally advanced prostate cancer in England](#) Sept 2021

All publications are announced on the [NPCA website](#) and on Twitter

Arthritis: NEIAA data are used to evidence meeting standards around clinical effectiveness for the BSR [Quality Review Scheme](#). [Three pilot sites](#) were involved in the accreditation process in October and November 2021.

CVDPrevent: Using the Data & Improvement Tool, systems (STPs) can benchmark their outcomes, evaluate how close they are to achieving their goals and understand where to invest extra resources e.g.:

- For AF 90% anticoagulation goal. STP range 84%-93%
- For BP 80% treatment to target goal, STP range 73%-85% in Mar 22 (compared to 53%-72% in Mar 21)
- Recent smoking status was recorded in 67% of cases; variation across STPs (59%-73%)

Psychosis: Performance in England was scored and provided to NHSE in 2021/22 to assess progression towards objectives in the EIP access and waiting times standard.

Child mortality: NCMD studies on Covid-19 mortality in children directly informed JCVI policy in vaccinating children [More](#).

Child mortality: An [article on NCMD's deprivation report](#) is published in Public Sector Focus's May/June edition, distributed to around 60,000 readers including policymakers.

Child mortality: "As ever, stunning and essential work" - [Daniel Devitt](#), Health & Wellbeing Programme Lead, Department of Health and Social Care, on Suicide report.

Arthritis: Data collected on the NEIAA organisational form fed into the BSR [workforce report](#) providing insight into the rheumatology workforce.

Arthritis: To support the implementation of one of the recommendations set in the [NEIAA second annual report](#), the BSR clinical affairs committee published a [national adult rheumatology referral guidance](#).

Arthritis: NEIAA results are used to justify individual unit's award of the Best Practice Tariff (BPT) for early inflammatory arthritis. For April 2021- March 2022, 59 Trusts achieved the BPT.

Paediatric critical care: PICANet informs and contributes to the development of the Paediatric Critical Care Society's (PCCS) Quality Standards.

Child mortality: NCMD contributes research to support two all-party parliamentary groups: one focused on baby loss, the other on temporary accommodation.

Psychosis: In 2023, a novel dashboard was built to collect and display data that indicates performance against the NHS Long Term Plan.

LOCAL How the project stimulates quality improvement

Epilepsy: Epilepsy Quality Improvement Programme. EQIP launched their third wave of training in October 2022 following two successful initial waves. EQIP has helped teams develop transition pathways, improve mental health care, and engage effectively with patients and families.

Psychosis: Local quality improvement ideas were incorporated into the national report for each NCAP standard in the EIP audit 2021/22.

Neonatal: Case study: [Optimal Cord Management in preterm infants – a Quality Improvement project – QI Central](#) (rcpch.ac.uk)

Arthritis: Data from the audit dashboard illustrating performance against [The National Institute for Health and Care Excellence \(NICE\) QS 2 & 3 \(2013 version\)](#) can be downloaded for use in team meetings to identify ways to improve waiting times and treatment delays.

Arthritis: Local champions alongside their colleagues attended the QI workshop in March 2022. 95% of delegates said that they are now very or extremely confident at leading a QI project following on from the workshop.

Child mortality: NCMD delivers two webinars in the period (on [the role of the key worker](#) and [effective reporting](#)) supporting the practice of around 500 professionals.

End of life: Proactive local review of management of outliers demonstrated (against two key metrics) and against narrative from the Quality Survey encouraged

Psychosis: 23 EIP teams signed up to take part in the NCAP QI collaborative 2023/24, with more teams indicating they would like to take part in the 2024/25 cohort. 19 of the 23 teams were successfully selected.

Emergency laparotomy: NELA routinely conduct [QI webinars](#) for local teams. These have included webinars specific to sepsis and elderly care management

Emergency laparotomy: NELA has a comprehensive QI dashboard, which includes reports on all key standards of care, allowing sites to compare their performance with national and regional data

Arthritis: Local champions approach low performers in their region to identify opportunities for improvement.

Arthritis: Regional meetings feature presentations from high performers who discuss steps taken to achieve such performance.

Prostate Cancer: Resources are published on the NPCA website to support local Quality Improvement (QI; action plan templates, provider-level reports and slides sets, case studies).

Asthma/COPD: Relaunch of regional reports: New and improved regional reports are now being published every six months for secondary care audits ([Adult Asthma](#), [Children and Young People](#) and [COPD](#)) and [PR](#) services. These present key performance indicator (KPI) information for services, as well as results at national, country, NHS region, integrated care system (ICS) and local health board level.

Vascular: The peripheral arterial disease quality improvement programme (PAD QIP) was launched in 2020, with an aim to improve the quality of care for patients presenting with chronic limb-threatening ischaemia (CLTI) by developing a quality improvement collaborative of healthcare professionals across the UK.

Dementia: QI webinars for memory assessment services following local reporting to support action planning for quality improvement

Child mortality: NCMD delivers [guidance poster](#) to GPs at the annual RCGP conference, reaching more than 400 professionals.

CVDPrevent: [Case studies](#) on applying CVDPrevent, including using CVDPrevent tools to tackle health inequalities

Asthma/COPD: New QI programme launched: NACAP has trained 14 QI coaches and is providing ongoing local support via online training platform and virtual workshops. We have received valuable feedback as we have combined clinical and educational expertise to deliver this QI programme.

Prostate Cancer: NPCA Quality Improvement workshop on **The Impact of COVID-19 and The Determinants of Variation in Treatment**

- Introduced by Stephen Fry; attended by ~100 clinicians and other MDT members, and patient representatives
- Presentations and panel discussions from a range of experts
- Videos of the event, including a full interview with Stephen Fry are at <https://www.npca.org.uk/quality-improvement/>

Paediatric critical care: Clinical teams can monitor PICU's mortality rates in real-time via the risk-adjusted standardised mortality ratio (SMR) PICANet provide training to support individual PICU mortality monitoring.

Mental Health CORP: [Safer Services: a toolkit for specialist mental health services and primary care](#): based on the '10 ways', designed for self-audit. Accessed >21,000 times

Mental Health CORP: [Standards for Serious Incident Reviews](#): NCISH standards for reviewing SIs, fed into [RCPsych standards](#)

Mental Health CORP: [Self-audit Self-harm toolkit](#): Based on NICE Quality Standard for Self-Harm [QS34]

Mental Health CORP: Examples of good practice: [Infographics](#) of local suicide prevention initiatives.

End of life: Hospitals requesting use of the Quality Survey outside of NACEL as a tried and tested methodology to receive feedback from bereaved carers

End of life: Each participant received bespoke infographics for reporting internally against key findings

Medical and Surgical CORP: Following the release of 'A Picture of Health?' a free, [online webinar](#) was held to discuss the key findings of the report and highlight examples of good practice to show how improvements could be made.

Child mortality: NCMD data quality monitoring reports and direct support helped CDOPs identify and address at least 7 data issues in the period. The NCMD also answered more than 200 queries from CDOPs on the child death review process in the period.

PUBLIC How the project is used by the public and the demand for it

Paediatric diabetes: Over 10,000 parents and patients completed PREM surveys in 2021.

Epilepsy: Children and young people are actively involved: their views influence the areas of care in the audit, and improvement activities led by the 'Youth Advocates' (epilepsy experienced children, young people, families and two epilepsy specialist nurses).

Epilepsy: A set of 'clinic posters' were developed which are a one-page, easy to access information of an NHS Trust or Health Board Epilepsy12 results. Designed to be displayed in clinics or shared digitally with patients/families.

End of life: Patient friendly report produced and extensively publicised through unique collaboration with the Patients Association

Asthma/COPD: NACAP real time run charts have been made publicly available. These facilitate understanding, by all stakeholders, (including people with asthma/COPD) on how their local healthcare provider is performing in relation to delivery of care. [Adult Asthma run chart](#), [CYP Asthma run chart](#), [COPD run chart](#) and [PR run chart](#)

Neonatal: NNAP is broadening its engagement with families with experience of neonatal care via newly established Parent Partnership Group.

Neonatal: [Your baby's care](#) – a parent and carers guide to the NNAP report on 2021 data updated following feedback parent representatives.

Psychosis: For the EIP audit 2021/22, a patient and carer focus group facilitated by Rethink Mental illness provided feedback about what the results meant to them. This report is published on our website.

End of life: Continued involvement, and expansion of, the NACEL Quality Survey – survey of bereaved carers

Asthma/COPD: NACAP have worked collaboratively with the Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health (RCPCH), in conjunction with the Asthma & Me Young Ambassadors to create a set of information leaflets, aimed at giving children with asthma admitted to hospital the correct information. [Asthma Leaflet - children admitted to hospital \(4-8 years old\)](#), [\(9-15 years old\)](#) and [\(16+ years\)](#).

Dementia: Roll out of newly developed patient feedback survey for ongoing use to collect feedback from people living with dementia admitted to hospital

CVDPrevent: The Patient Panel actively contributes to audit delivery:
- A larger focus on lifestyle indicators for future audit rounds was requested and granted (e.g. inclusion of a smoking indicator)
- Taking the jargon out of outputs making them more accessible to all
- Patient panel member blog ([CVDPREVENT blog: Getting to the heart of the matter – NHS Benchmarking Network](#))

Child mortality: More than 20 informative videos for families and professionals published, with a combined viewing of more than 1,500.

Prostate Cancer: Information regarding the provision of key diagnostic, treatment and support services by provider in England and Wales are available on the [NPCA website](#). These results are utilised by **Prostate Cancer UK (PCUK)** and **Tackle Prostate Cancer** to inform patients regarding the availability of services.

Prostate Cancer: The [Patient Summary of AR2021 and slide set](#) are available from the NPCA website for use by patient groups

Prostate Cancer: The NPCA supported NHS England and PCUK's campaign to "[Find the 14,000 missing men](#)"

Paediatric critical care: PICANet's mortality outlier analysis included in annual reports reassures the public about the quality and performance of participating paediatric critical care units.

Mental Health CORP: Videos/ infographics:
*Produced for each report, (on website & social media);
*Service-user infographics for each report;
*Service-user output consultation

Vascular: The NVR started reporting information on the type of AAA device used in 2021. This will provide valuable outcomes to patients (long-term mortality and re-intervention rates) in future years that will aid patients' decision making on what type of procedure they would like.

Arthritis: A podcast was recorded with National Rheumatoid Arthritis Society (NRAS) CEO to support wider dissemination of the [NEIAA short report on ethnicity](#) findings to members of the public.

Child mortality: NCMD tweets were seen around 173,600 times during the period, substantially more than in the previous six months.

Child mortality: The NCMD website had 21,277 users in the period – a substantial increase on the 11,933 in the previous six months.



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