



The **ROYAL**
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federation of independent
practitioner organisations

A joint meeting of the Forum on Quality in Health Care and the
Federation of Independent Practitioner Organisations (FIPO)

PROFESSIONAL QUALITY AND PATIENT OUTCOMES IN THE INDEPENDENT SECTOR AND NHS

Tuesday 20 June 2006

With contributions from:

Stephen Collier, General Healthcare

Dr Kamran Abassi, Dr Foster Intelligence

Mr Jon Billings, Head of Independent Healthcare, Healthcare Commission

Mr David Rosin, Senior Vice-President Royal College of Surgeons of England

Professor Aidan Halligan, Director of Clinical Governance for the NHS

Dr Christine Tomkins, Professional Services Director, Medical Defence Union

Dr Frank Hauser, Medical Director HCA

Professor A M Thompson, University of Dundee

Mr Geoffrey Glazer, Chairman of FIPO

North Hall

The Royal Society of Medicine

1 Wimpole Street

London

W1G 0AE

CONFERENCE INFORMATION

The movement of patients from the NHS to the independent sector, now a trickle and shortly to be a flood, will abolish barriers and change models of care. The Healthcare Commission is set to align the two sectors although the basic differences may mean that there is not a level playing field.

Whatever the final configuration of services and regulation there is a constant desire on the part of patients, clinicians and managers for improved quality of care. The problem is how best to achieve this. There are fundamental differences between the two sectors in terms of the types of services on offer, the involvement of consultants and junior doctors and possibly even in the case mix. Information systems are also variable. The NHS has copious data and whilst there is more selective information available in the independent sector neither is completely attuned to the production of relevant information for the assessment of clinical performance.

Ultimately, in hospital practice, clinical care and decision-making rests in the hands of the consultant. Changes in training (MMC) and the arrival of overseas specialists will add to the confusion of the registration of “consultants”. Guidelines, protocols, audits, care pathways and league tables abound but there remains the question of how to measure quality and how to implement an acceptable structure for clinicians in both the NHS and private sectors. Obviously the treatment to the patient should and usually is the same but external forces may influence this in different ways.

This joint meeting of the Section on Quality in Healthcare and FIPO will analyse some of the different approaches being taken in the independent sector and the NHS. There will be presentations from those leading the quality agenda in both these sectors and examples from other countries.

This meeting should be relevant and appeal to Chief Executives, hospital managers, clinical governance teams, MAC members, clinical directors and consultants in both the independent and NHS sectors

CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

Provisional Programme

9.00 am **Registration with tea and coffee**

SESSION ONE - METHODS OF MEASURING QUALITY: WHAT IS APPLICABLE IN THE INDEPENDENT SECTOR AND NHS

Chair: **Mr Geoffrey Glazer, Consultant Surgeon, Chairman of FIPO**

9.30 am **Overview from the Independent Sector**

Mr Stephen Collier, General Counsel, General Healthcare

What are the differences between the NHS and Independent Sector and how can the Healthcare Commission develop a level playing field? What are the demographic and economic drivers of quality in the independent sector and how can consultants, the prime deliverers of care, be engaged?

9.50 am **Indicators for the Independent Sector – what is the role of the regulator?**

Mr Jon Billings, Head of Independent Healthcare, Healthcare Commission

What are the indicative hospital indicators required from the independent and NHS sectors and are they compatible? Do they reflect true quality of care? What are the implications for release of these data under the Freedom of Information Act?

10.10 am **Applying NHS data - the Dr Foster Approach**

Dr Kamran Abassi, Dr Foster Intelligence

How reliable is the broad approach of Dr Foster to NHS data and how far can this be refined as a true marker of quality care? How different is this from Quality Indicator Project (QIPs) utilised in the independent sector? What are its implications for the Independent Sector with its different clinical focus? Does this data measure quality in a meaningful way?

10.30 am **Panel discussion**

11.00 am **Tea and coffee**

SESSION TWO - ASSESSING PROFESSIONAL PERFORMANCE

Chair: Mr Dai Davies, Consultant Plastic Surgeon, FIPO Board Trustee

11.30 am **The consultant of the future - painting by numbers?**

Mr David Rosin, Senior Vice President, The Royal College of Surgeons of England

Will the new breed of trainees under MMC and PMETB be the same as current consultants and what does consultant experience really count for? Can the practice of medicine be contained within restricted clinical care pathways and how much attention should now be paid to guidelines and protocols? Will the new specialist be able to work unsupervised? What about the European trainees?

11.50 am **Professional accountability – differences between the NHS and Independent Sector**

Professor Aidan Halligan, Director of Clinical Governance, NHS

How does professional accountability differ between the NHS and Independent Sector? Does professional accountability differ in different provider models (NHS, ISTC and traditional private practice)? How can clinical governance processes address these accountability issues?

12.10 pm **Measuring professional performance from a legal perspective**

Dr Christine Tomkins, Deputy Chief Executive and Professional Standards Director, Medical Defence Union

Can the Medical Defence Unions cast a true light on a doctor's performance? What do complaints tell us about performance and what can be learnt from complaints and civil action? Are courts the right medium to expose clinical deficiencies and how do they fairly assess performance in a particular case?

12.30 pm **Panel discussion**

1.00 pm **Lunch**

SESSION THREE - MEASURING QUALITY OUTCOMES

- Chair:** Professor Nick Bosanquet, Professor of Health Policy, Imperial College
- 2.00 pm **The American approach to professional and hospital performance assessment**
Dr Frank Houser, Medical Director, Hospital Corporation of America, USA
How is professional performance measured in the USA? How are professional and hospital performance separated? What are the major professional issues and what is the American experience in dealing with them? Is the American model of clinical governance suitable for the UK and how far does the Managed Care intrusions of insurers impact on clinical practice?
- 2.20 pm **Mortality - anything to learn from the Scottish Audit Of Surgical Mortality?**
Professor A.M. Thompson, Professor of Surgical Oncology, University of Dundee
The cohesive mortality studies from Scotland have demonstrated some improvements in care but would this have happened anyway? Should this method of analysis be adopted in the Independent Sector and the NHS generally and if so at what cost and with what downside? Do these types of studies just lead to inappropriate media attention and phoney league tables with resultant defensive medicine?
- 2:40 pm **Completion of evaluation**
- 2.45 pm **Clinical governance coordination in the Independent Sector**
Mr Geoffrey Glazer, Consultant Surgeon, Chairman of FIPO
How do the Medical Advisory Committees (MAC), which have the statutory responsibility of policing local Clinical Governance in the Private Sector actually function? What are the professional and benchmark issues? How can this be best co-ordinated in the future? Is there a need for a national clinical governance advisory group for the independent sector and of so, what general policies should it adopt?
- 3.05 pm **Round up discussion**
- 3.35 pm **Close of meeting and reception – all welcome**

CPD : 5 credits applied for

This meeting is generously supported by:

HCA

FURTHER INFORMATION

The Royal Society of Medicine Forum on Quality in Health Care

The Forum on Quality in Health Care was founded in 1990, and is one of many special interest groups at the Royal Society of Medicine. The mission of the Forum is to encourage debate and discussion on issues relating to the quality of healthcare. The Forum organises meetings and conferences, produces a newsletter, and contributes to the Journal of the Royal Society of Medicine.

The topics of past meetings have included: patient safety and adverse events; complexity science in healthcare; clinical practice guidelines; outcome indicators; accountability for quality in professional performance; accreditation of community hospitals; standards in palliative care; quality in primary care; league tables in health care; risk management; knowledgeable users in healthcare; quality in cancer care; evaluating clinical audit; changing clinical practice; the European ISQua conference; the development of clinical risk management; measuring quality in maternity services; and improving quality through clinical teams.

Membership of the Forum is open to anyone with an interest in quality in healthcare. If you are medically qualified, you must join the Royal Society of Medicine as a Fellow in order to become a member of the Forum. Anyone else can join the Forum by becoming an Associate member. Forum members receive prior notification of meetings and conferences organised by the Forum and substantial reductions in meeting attendance charges. They also receive access to the Journal of the Royal Society of Medicine and a bimonthly bulletin on all events organised by the Royal Society of Medicine.

THE FEDERATION OF INDEPENDENT PRACTITIONER ORGANISATIONS (FIPO)

FIPO was founded in 2000 after wide consultation within the profession. The purpose of FIPO is to bring together the disparate groups of specialist committees, independent hospital Medical Advisory Committees (MACs) and Chambers groups acting for the profession in the independent sector. FIPO is thus an overarching organisation that can help with policies, advice and dissemination of information without interfering with the autonomy of each member organisation.

FIPO's main remit is to promote high clinical standards and choice for patient and doctor. To advance this remit, FIPO has produced detailed guidelines for MAC Chairmen, holds regular meetings on clinical quality for consultants and is intent on setting up a national clinical governance advisory committee for the private sector. FIPO works closely with hospital providers, the Healthcare Commission, the private medical insurers and other professional bodies in its pursuit of clinical excellence.

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Quality in Healthcare Forum

Professional quality and patient outcomes in the independent sector and NHS

Tuesday 20 June 2006

Venue : North Hall

Office use only

Received:

Delegate: / 3499

Finance: QU-A10-4

Publicity: FIPO Web

Please fill in your name and present appointment and institute as you would like them to appear on the delegate list, your name badge and the attendance register.

Please use one form per person, feel free to photocopy.

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email: quality@rsm.ac.uk

Book on-line at: www.rsm.ac.uk/quality

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Registrations will not be accepted over the telephone. If after sending us your payment, you decide to cancel, you have 7 days in which to do so in writing, by fax, or by email and a full refund will be given. After this time refunds will only be given on fees over £10.00, and will incur a 15% administration charge.

Reservations/refunds must be received by the date specified above, otherwise a refund cannot be made. Places are only guaranteed upon written confirmation.

Acceptance on to this meeting is at the discretion of the event organiser. If pre-payment has not been made by the date of the event, the event organiser reserves the right to refuse admission to the event.