

Patient safety Opportunity for innovations

Context

The West Midlands Academic Health Science Network (WMAHSN) has a defined process for addressing the region's health delivery needs and challenges through asking for outcome-focused innovation proposals that can be received and agreed with our partners throughout the year. This document provides you with an overview of the areas in which we are interested in seeking to pull innovation proposals.

WMAHSN criteria

Proposals will be shortlisted against the following criteria:

- Regional scalability
- Fit with WMAHSN priorities and business plan
- Clear deliverables, outcomes measures and quality indicators
- Evidence of support across the region
- Patient/carer involvement
- Consistency with other WMAHSN themes
- Fit with the NHS Outcomes Framework
- Evidence of additional investment.

Priority – Patient safety

Building on the recommendations from the Francis Report, the WMAHSN is, in partnership with NHS England and NHS Improving Quality, developing one of the 15 planned Patient Safety Collaboratives (PSCs).

Our aim is to support the development of a strong safety culture that continually reduces avoidable harm by helping organisations to work together to develop, implement, share and catalyse the adoption of proven safety interventions that are based on rigorous, evidence-based scientific methodologies.

The PSC will bring together collaborative networks composed of frontline teams, commissioners, patients and others across settings and organisations to develop the patient safety culture, spread innovative approaches and share learning. This approach will complement other initiative and will dovetail with and augment programmes commissioned under our drug safety and medicines optimisation clinical priority, and our innovation and adoption enabling theme which looks at the spread and adoption of existing good practice across the region.

We will focus on locally determined priorities across our region, ensuring involvement and commitment of staff. To date, we have conducted a survey across the West Midlands to obtain the views of colleagues in the NHS and social care. We also held a symposium on 5 November 2014 to identify, discuss and refine regional priorities.

Initially, a collaborative network and related programme of work focusing on pressure ulcers (linking in hydration, nutrition and possibly acute kidney injury avoidance) will be taken forward. This will involve work across the health and social care sector (bridging community and acute

settings) and require leadership, measurement, culture change and patient involvement (all priorities identified by the survey and symposium). This work programme will subsequently inform the development of other safety programmes with similar challenges e.g. safety for children, young people and mental health.

The PSC programme will also work alongside the national 'Sign up to Safety' initiative, with regional providers encouraged and supported to participate.

For future programmes of work when established, the WM PSC is particularly interested in the following five priorities to support improvements in patient safety:

Cultural development

- Organisational culture has a significant impact on patient safety. Leadership and team working within and across organisations are of critical importance.
- This priority is looking for programmes of work related to education and training, workforce development, networking and other activities to address cultural development, leadership and team working. Due to the close working relationship between the WMAHSN and Health Education West Midlands, programmes could potentially be undertaken in partnership between the organisations.

Transition

- Transition between different health and social care providers can cause significant safety issues at handover points, which the PSC would like to address.
- Programmes to address this priority should work to improve handover of patients to ensure that their safety is maximised. Consideration should be given to linking programmes to the cultural development priority above.

Vulnerable populations

- The safety of children, young people and those with mental health issues was highlighted as an area of potential future focus for the WM PSC.
- This priority is looking for evidence-based approaches to improve the safety of vulnerable populations across the West Midlands. Programmes could be potentially linked to the transition priority above.

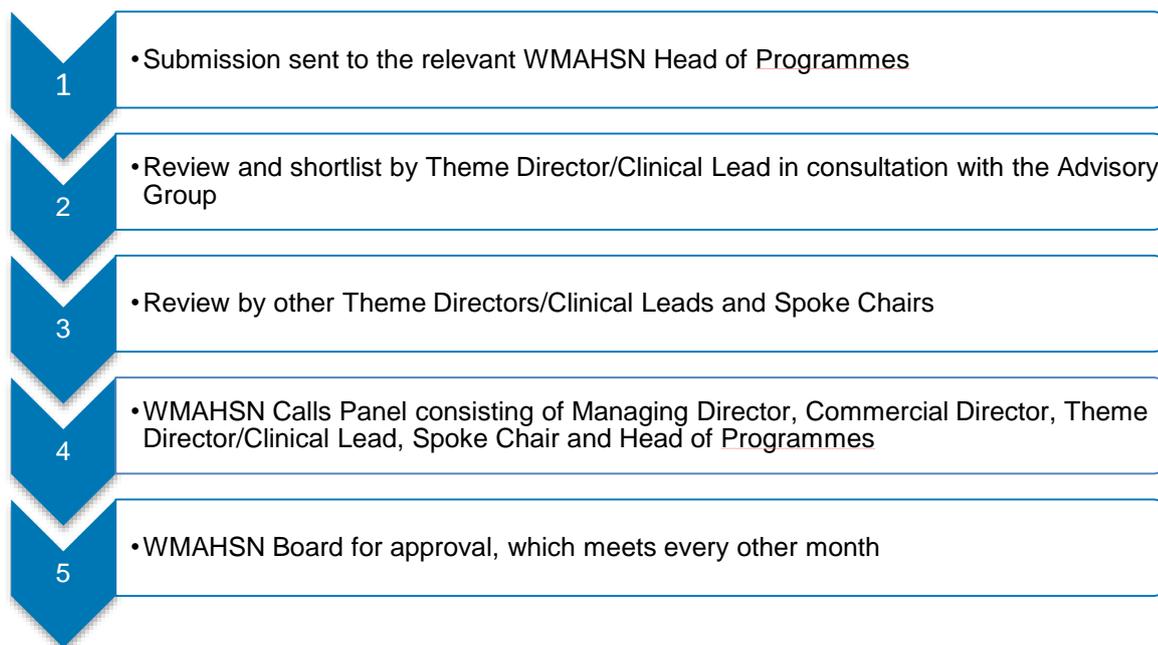
Digital tools

- Digital technologies support patient safety in a variety of ways. Monitoring, integration, analysis and reporting of different information is a significant challenge.
- This priority is looking for digital tools and approaches to support improvements in patient safety. Consideration should be given to the practical application of solutions and their integration into existing healthcare data systems within the timeframe of programmes.

Patient/carer/staff involvement and experience

- Patients and carers have very different experiences of healthcare. Data gathered on their experiences and the experiences of staff can help to identify patient safety issues within organisations.
- This priority is looking for programmes that will utilise patient, carer or staff experience data or involvement activities to identify patient safety issues. Programmes should highlight how identified issues are resolved within organisations.

Process



For any queries on the process please contact the relevant contact for assistance. A template for any submissions can be obtained from our website at www.wmahsn.org/get-involved/Opportunities or by emailing for a copy.

| Theme | Contact | Email |
|--|-----------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Medicines optimisation and adherence | Lucy Chatwin | lucy.chatwin@wmahsn.org |
| Patient experience and feedback | | |
| Wealth creation | | |
| Digital health | Neil Mortimer | neil.mortimer@wmahsn.org |
| Mental health | | |
| Open data | | |
| Education and workforce for the future | Louise Stewart | louise.stewart@wmahsn.org |
| Integrated care | Lucy Chatwin and Neil Mortimer | lucy.chatwin@wmahsn.org |
| Long term conditions | | neil.mortimer@wmahsn.org |
| Evidence and adoption | | |
| Wellness and healthy ageing | | |
| Patient safety | Peter Jeffries | peter.jeffries@wmahsn.org |

