National Advisory Group for Clinical Audit & Enquiries

Consultation on Future of Audit staff in Trusts

Responses to the overall document and to the specific questions should be sent to clinicalaudit@dh.gsi.gov.uk) by Monday 17 September 2012.

The full document can be downloaded from www.dh.gov.uk/health/2012/07/audit-staff/

Q1	Do you agree with this assessment of the current concerns of audit staff in Trust?]	Yes definitely
Q2	Do you agree that the current situation is not sustainable?	Yes completely agree
Q3	Do you agree with this analysis of the underlying reasons for the current situation?]	Yes definitely
Q4	Do you agree this would be helpful?	Yes
Q5	Do you agree this would be helpful?	Yes
Q6	Do you agree this would be helpful?	Yes
Q7	Do you agree this would be helpful?	Yes
Q8	Do you agree this would be helpful?	Yes
Q9	What is your view of each component in the proposal?	1. Very important. There is definitely a lack of understanding as to the fundamental purpose of audit and tying it in with quality improvement would make this a lot clearer and hopefully be more indicative of what we are trying to achieve. The greater integration of audit and clinical staff would also be a huge step forward 2. The development of a quality department would be extremely helpful, especially with all the service evaluation/ improvement/ projects which are not strictly clinical audits but really need to be run as facilitated, robust projects

		and subjected to the same level of rigour. This would help with the current isolation of clinical audit and hopefully bring it to the attention of senior management. 3. Change management and facilitation training would be very useful 4. Not sure what this would entail or look like, but agree in principle that regional quality improvement work would be very useful 5. NCAs need to be better designed, with clearer data collection protocols to encourage standardised reporting of data. Focusing on outcomes only is not very helpful as this gives no indication of the issues or any failings in processes which can then be worked on and improved. Greater support and suggestions on how to implement change from National Centres would be very welcome.
Q10	Do you have suggestions for other components?	No.