

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. However, currently resources and skills are not an issue at this Trust, and clinical audit staff are not diverted to undertake other activities
Q2	Do you agree that the current situation is not sustainable?	No. However, some agendas do not have audit aims.
Q3	Do you agree with this analysis of the underlying reasons for the current situation?]	Agree that audit staff in individual trusts may be isolated and resource could be saved by collaboration with others when undertaking same audits as other trusts. Also agree that quality improvement skills and knowledge of clinicians and managers are poorly developed.
Q4	Do you agree this would be helpful?	Agree that explicit definition of quality assessment and quality improvement is essential, but the two elements can't exist separately they need to be integrated.
Q5	Do you agree this would be helpful?	Yes
Q6	Do you agree this would be helpful?	Already in process. Rebranding as quality would not necessarily enhance clinical audit.
Q7	Do you agree this would be helpful?	Greater opportunities would be welcome, but consideration has to be given to existing roles within the organisation. Dilution of skills is to be avoided if a wider remit of responsibilities/skills are attributed to clinical audit staff. Clinical audit staff have very specific skills and knowledge and this should not at any stage be jeopardised by widening the role
Q8	Do you agree this would be helpful?	Audit staff currently belong to a strong local and regional network and duplication needs to be considered and prevented.

Q9	What is your view of each component in the proposal?	Agree with all components
Q10	Do you have suggestions for other components?	Nominated clinical lead to work with clinical audit facilitators