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eNewsletter - Issue 120 - May 2019

CASC audit/QI competitions launched



Audit and QI competitions for NURSES

Since setting up our junior doctor clinical audit and QI competitions in 2010 we have been asked 'being, every three why we don't offer a similar competition for nurses? We were facing other agencies could help in the real world as the challenge, especially given the widespread agreement that it is vital to identify real-world practical examples of best practice and share those. We are delighted to announce that in 2019 to coincide with our 10th anniversary, we are stepping up to the plate.



We are delighted to be able to announce full details of our clinical audit and QI competitions for 2019. This year marks the 10th anniversary of our first-ever junior doctor audit competition and we are proud to have had so many high-quality projects submitted since 2010.

Indeed, many submissions have been published in

online journals. As with previous years, juniors can submit to either our clinical audit or QI project awards and this [flyer](#) provides more details. Juniors have until 30 August to submit their entries and the entry forms can be downloaded [here](#). In addition to the junior doctors, for the first time ever in 2019 we are running competitions for nursing staff. This [flyer](#) supplies more details with the competitions being open to nursing staff (as defined as Nursing and Midwifery Council members) that have led a clinical audit or QI project. Nurses have until 2 August to submit their entries via these [forms](#). In both instances, finalists will be asked to produce posters showcasing their work with judging taking part during Clinical Audit Awareness Week #CAAW19 (25 to 29 November 2019).

CASC annual survey update

We have spent a considerable amount of time in April working towards the final publication of our annual 'state of clinical audit' survey and we envisage that this will be available later in May 2019. The final report will include all numeric data and every free-text comment submitted as we want to ensure that this is an entirely transparent report (and because all comments belong to the clinical audit community!). Recent analysis has focused on the many suggestions for how to improve national clinical audits and we are pleased to see a number of clear themes and suggestions emerging. We are delighted that Sam McIntyre

Training Courses:

- [Advanced Clinical Audit](#)
- [Train the Trainer in Clinical Audit](#)
- [Audit Distance Learning Course](#)
- [Root Cause Analysis](#)
- [Significant Event Audit](#)
- [Getting started with QI](#)

See Also:

- [About us](#)
- [Training courses](#)
- [Clinical Audit resources](#)
- [CASC reports](#)
- [Quality improvement](#)
- [Patient safety](#)

Announcements:

Next eNews will be published on 3 June 2019.

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(Quality Manager from the Royal College of Emergency Medicine) has agreed to help us identify key findings. We feel that it is important that our analysis is checked by an external expert. We are also pleased that we will be presenting key findings at the London Quality Improvement (including Clinical Audit)

Network meeting in London on 13 May and that we will also be submitting recommendations to improve national audits to the NQICAN blog.

Great feedback on our Excel tools



We recently released a series of easy-to-use Excel tools to assist those conducting clinical audit projects. The four tools are designed to help users understand: a) is the proposed project a clinical audit, b) is the proposed audit likely to be a success and c) how do we rate a clinical audit project that

has been undertaken? All four tools are available from our website homepage, [here](#). In addition, we have made the Quality Impact Analysis tool (based on the work of the Healthcare Quality Improvement Partnership) available via NQICAN's sharing forum and we are pleased to see that this has been downloaded 58 times in less than a month. We plan to release more Excel tools and we will be offering accredited Excel training for clinical audit and QI staff in the near future. Get in touch if you are interested.

Fab new Health Foundation resource

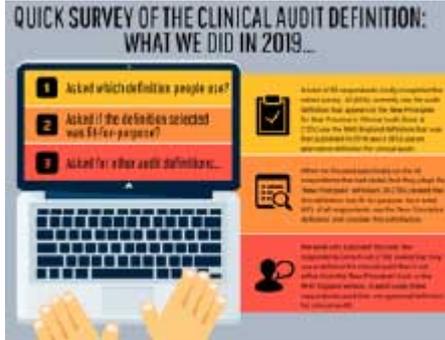


CASC are great fans of the Health Foundation and the various materials and documents that they produce for the healthcare community. For example, we often signpost learners to their quick guides and we especially like Quality improvement made simple and Evaluation: what to consider. These are

essential reading for audit and QI professionals. In addition, to the

quick guides, the Health Foundation release more detailed documents and with this in mind we would encourage you to download and read their excellent new learning report entitled The improvement journey. This features lots of useful insights and what are in effect case studies of improvement initiatives carried out within the NHS. We are so impressed with this 32-page publication that we have featured it via the ‘stuff we like’ section on our website. Click [here](#) to find out more.

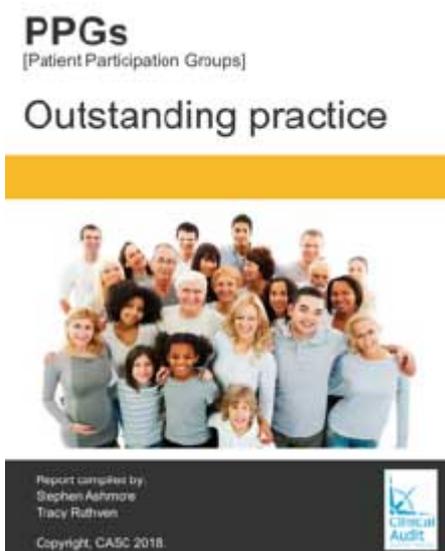
Defining clinical audit: our survey results



As many of you may be aware, we recently undertook a short survey to find out the views of members of the clinical audit community on established definitions of clinical audit. We undertook this mini-survey as there

seems to be much debate in terms of what purpose clinical audit serves, e.g. improvement, assurance, etc. We would like to thank the 50 individuals that provided feedback via our quick Survey Monkey questionnaire. The results were conclusive with 80% of respondents currently using the definition contained within the New Principles for Best Practice in Clinical Audit book. 12% of users adopt the definition of clinical audit provided by NHS England in 2016, with 8% of respondents using their own definition! Click [here](#) to see the infographic that provides more details of the results of the survey. From a CASC perspective, we are very pleased that the majority of respondents use and adopt the ‘New Principles’ definition that stresses from the outset ‘clinical audit is a quality improvement process’.

New PPI resources on offer



Believe it or not, since 1994 we have been expected to involve patients directly in clinical audit activity! Interestingly, the CASC annual survey indicates that this is a weak-spot with less than 10% of respondents year-on-year describing local patient involvement in clinical audit as ‘good’. With this in mind, it is pleasing to see that HQIP have updated their Patient and Public Involvement pages

on their website. This includes examples of patient involvement in national clinical audit projects [here](#), plus details of how HQIP adhere to the seven principles of PPI (4PI National Involvement Standards), [here](#). In addition, CASC have released a new 24-page guide focusing on best practice when it comes to Patient Participation Groups in Primary Care.

This extensive document uses feedback from CQC reports to highlight examples of outstanding work and projects carried out by PPGs. Click [here](#) for more details.

Get involved: what is coming up?



We are currently taking expressions of interest for all of our accredited courses and hope to offer both the Advanced Clinical Audit and Train the Trainer courses in Leicester in June and/or early July. In the meantime, we are running the Clinical Audit Masterclass in London on 7 June. Contact us for more details. At a national level we note that Healthcare Conferences UK are

running a one-day conference in London on 14 June entitled 'Clinical Audit for Improvement in Mental Health', click [here](#) for details. We would also encourage clinicians and improvement professionals to take note of the short Improvement Fundamentals online courses supported by NHS England. There are four courses available and each offers 2.5 CPD points. For more details, click [here](#). You can also track the outputs and debate from the course via #QIHikers.

Tell your friends about our eNews



We first launched the CASC e-Newsletter in February 2007 with the aim of providing those with an interest in clinical audit and QI with a free regular monthly update. Since that time hundreds of subscribers across the world have joined our circulation list. The newsletter provides subscribers with a mixture of CASC-related and other clinical audit, quality improvement and patient safety news to help you keep up-to-date with current events. Don't forget that if you have missed a previous issue of the newsletter then you can visit the [eNews](#) section of our website where all previous issues are archived. If you wish to sign up for your own copy or know others who may be interested then please email:

info@clinicalauditsupport.com

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