

**NHS Customer Board for Procurement and Supply  
Clinical Reference Board Meeting 24<sup>th</sup> November 2017**

Category	Key updates
Strategic issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>FOM - Concern was expressed that it was not transparent that DHL had in effect won 3 of the Category Tower Services leading to a discussion around the independent credibility of the clinical evaluation process that would be undertaken on behalf of Category Tower Service Providers.</li> <li>NCB/CRB/CET – Concern was expressed around the future of the National Customer Board and CRB/CET moving forwards.</li> <li>The CET will finish next year as their work and processes become “industrialised” by the Category Towers. Clarity was requested on the timeframes for transition and uptake of work by the Towers.</li> <li>A report is being drafted on Clinical Governance regarding the roles and functions of the CRB and Customer Board in the FOM. This will be for discussion and agreement at the next National Customer Board meeting in February 2018.</li> <li>FOM - The DH is launching a clinical engagement campaign and will be looking for nominations for a senior clinical sponsor at each Trust.</li> </ul>
Meeting the financial challenge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Ambulance Service Acute Sector Electrodes standardisation project is progressing well with interest from STPs being received. Request will be made to each Trust for nominations of a champion in their A&amp;E Department. MOUs with all Trusts should be in place by the end of January 2018.</li> </ul>
Developing the procurement function	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The DH held a Model Procurement workshop on 31st October, the objective of which was to consider what a Trust Procurement Department might look like following the implementation of the FOM. 40 Trusts attended and worked on an impact assessment exercise to establish general levels of readiness. David Newton, in his capacity as Chair of the CPSN presented on the emerging role that clinical procurement specialists will play in the FOM.</li> <li>GIRFT - Question was raised if there was a link between good procurement practices and those Trusts who have a Clinical Procurement Specialist. It was agreed that this be investigated further. Significant savings can be made through better procurement engagement with clinicians.</li> </ul>
Meeting the quality challenge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>John Warrington joined the meeting to give an update on the Getting it Right First Time Programme (GIFRT) which was started by Professor Tim Briggs around five years ago when he identified that there was huge clinical variation and that improved outcomes and savings could be achieved through standardisation. There are 24 clinical workstreams underway. An agreed risk for the programme was identified as being the credibility of clinicians involved in the programme.</li> <li>Five CET reports have now been published with a further two approved with minor amendments. Additional reports will be approved virtually. The team has faced a number of challenges with the production of the reports including legal challenges, team and comms support resource, access to samples and lab testing timescales.</li> </ul>

<p>Communications</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A Freedom of Information report is currently being written in relation to bagged waste and will be published in February 2018 addressing the variation in the prices Trusts are paying to have their bagged waste disposed of. The report also highlights where significant savings can be made by classifying the waste correctly.</li> <li>• A 'Glove Awareness Week' will be held week commencing 30th April which will focus on the work and experiences of individuals and organisations that are focusing on reducing inappropriate use of gloves. The RCN is currently updating its guidance which is due to be produced on 26th April 2018, followed by World Hand Hygiene Day on 5th May.</li> </ul>
<p>How we work as a Board</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NHSI has now appointed four Regional Heads of Procurement and a representative will attend future meetings (subject to resource implications).</li> </ul>