

QUALITY ASSURANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

Trust Board	Item: 14
Date: 28 September 2022	Enclosure: I
Purpose of the Report:	
This report has been produced for the Trust Board Meeting to provide an update on discussions held at the Quality Assurance Committee in August 2022.	
FOR: Information <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Assurance <input type="checkbox"/> Discussion and input <input type="checkbox"/> Decision/approval <input type="checkbox"/>	
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Risk Implications – Link to Assurance Framework or Corporate Risk Register:	Corporate quality and safety risks are recorded on the risk register
Legal / Regulatory / Reputation Implications:	CQC registration NHS Resolution CNST
Link to Relevant CQC Domain: All	
Safe <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Effective <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Caring <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Responsive <input type="checkbox"/> Well Led <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Link to Relevant Corporate Objective:	Strategic Objective 1: to deliver quality, patient centred healthcare services with and an excellent reputation.
Document Previously Considered By:	None
Recommendations:	
1. Discuss any concerns with regards to trends highlighted in the report.	

Quality Assurance Committee 17th August 2022
Report for Trust Board 28th September 2022

Summary

Assurance was provided on clinical quality through a variety of data sources, reports, and discussion. Despite a reduced number of admissions related to COVID, pressures within ED and across the hospital remain high. This is largely due to continuing problems in discharging patients who are medically fit for discharge as well as from workforce issues. The committee was assured, both verbally and from the data presented, that patients are still receiving safe clinical care, however it is harder to maintain an optimal patient experience. The pressures at Kingston are being felt across the sector, regionally and nationally and the committee was assured that staff at Kingston continue to work with partners across the system to try to mitigate the pressures as they prepare for winter.

Regular reports received for 'quality assurance and control' were:

- The June 2022 Integrated Performance Report
- The SI report for July 2022
- The triangulation report for Q1 2022/2023
- An update on 2022/23 Quality Priorities
- The Planned Care Quality Assurance Report

Key Items discussed under quality improvement were:

- An update on ophthalmology services
- A thematic review of SIs in radiology
- An update on the complaints project

Items considered under Governance were

- The BAF risk register

Issues to note

- The Planned Care Quality Assurance Report gave the committee assurance that the division has a focus on clinical quality and, through a self-assessment process, can identify and act on key issues which are impacting on quality. The issue which is putting the most pressure on the delivery of high-quality care is workforce availability. The committee were advised that focus is needed on developing a quicker process for appointments to key posts. A further issue for note is that activity payments do not cover activity undertaken as mutual aid. The committee noted that this is an issue already noted at the Finance and Investment Committee.
- The Q1 triangulation report presented a wide range of data related to quality and gave the committee assurance that there is an awareness of and action plans in place to address the key themes that are emerging which impact on clinical quality.

- The action plan on ophthalmology gave significant assurance to the committee that the issues in this service which impact on clinical quality are well understood. The committee noted the action plan which is in place to improve the service. The committee asked that progress on the action plan is reported to QAC in six months' time.
- The thematic review of radiology services provided the committee with assurance that the systemic problems behind the SIs in radiology have been identified at service level. The committee asked that consideration is given by the executive to developing an action plan to address these issues.
- The committee received an update on the recent issue with discharge summaries from ED.
- The committee were advised that the new Patient Safety Incident Response Framework has been released. The Patient safety team are reviewing the document and working through what will be required by the organisation. We have one year from September 2022 to implement the framework. The framework will change the way in which investigations are declared, investigated, and signed off.

CLW 18th August 2022