

SHEFFIELD TEACHING HOSPITALS NHS FOUNDATION TRUST

PAPER FOR THE GOVERNORS' COUNCIL MEETING ON TUESDAY 8TH MARCH 2011

Subject	Audit of performance indicators in the 2010/11 STHFT Quality Report
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Status	For Decision

PURPOSE

1. To brief the Governors' Council on the Monitor proposals for the external audit of performance indicators in the 2010/11 Quality Report
2. For the Governors' Council to agree on the locally determined performance indicator that will be audited

KEY POINTS

1. The Audit Commission carried out an external audit of Foundation Trust Quality Reports for 2009/10.
2. That audit included an evaluation of controls on systems to produce certain performance indicators.
3. Monitor propose to carry out the same evaluation in the audit of the 2011/12 Quality Reports
4. Monitor propose that they specify two performance indicators, and will also require assurance in relation to one additional, locally agreed performance indicator from the Quality Report.
5. Monitor propose that the local performance indicator is agreed by the Foundation Trust's Governors.
6. This paper seeks agreement from the Governors' Council on that indicator

Background

1. Foundation Trusts were required to commission their external auditors to evaluate their 2009/10 Quality Reports. The Audit Commission were commissioned by STHFT. The exercise undertaken on the 2009/10 reports was a "dry run" and as such did not result in a formal audit opinion. The results of the audit of the STHFT 2009/10 Quality Report were made known in July 2010. The Trust Quality Report for 2009/10 was generally well received by the Audit Commission, who made some helpful recommendations about content and structure.

2. Part of that audit was an evaluation and test of the controls on the systems and processes used to produce certain performance indicators. The performance indicators specified by Monitor for 2009/10 related to the incidence of MRSA, the maximum waiting time of 62 days from urgent GP referral to first treatment for all cancers, and the 18 week wait for admitted and non-admitted patients and patients with direct access to audiology services. The evaluations and tests were designed to ascertain the level of accuracy, validity, reliability, timeliness, relevance and completeness of the systems and data.

Monitor proposals for 2010/11

3. Monitor has recently published a Consultation Document on proposed additional annual reporting requirements for Foundation Trusts, for the year 2010/11.

4. Monitor propose that Foundation Trusts' external auditors will evaluate the content of the Quality Report and, as in 2009/10, will test the systems and processes relating to two performance indicators for 2010/11 that they have specified. These are, the incidence of MRSA or C Difficile, and the maximum waiting time of 62 days from urgent GP referral to first treatment for all cancers.

5. In addition to the two indicators specified by Monitor, they will also require assurance in relation to one locally agreed performance indicator from the Quality Report. Monitor propose that Foundation Trusts ask their Governors to agree to the local performance indicator.

STHFT Quality Report Project Team meeting 17th February 2011

6. The STHFT Quality Report Project Team includes several Governor representatives and was constituted under the chairmanship of the Medical Director to discuss and decide on the content of the 2010/11 Quality Report.

7. At its meeting on the 17th February, which was attended by four Governors, the Project Team discussed the matter of choosing and approval of a third performance indicator in the 2010/11 Quality Report for external audit.

8. After an extensive discussion, the Project Team agreed that the third locally chosen indicator should be either;

- the percentage of patients who were re-admitted to hospital, or,
- the percentage of Primary Angioplasty patients who are treated within the 150 minutes standard for "call to balloon time"

9. It was agreed that a Governor representative from the Project Team would ask for agreement at the Governors' Council meeting on 8th March.

10. The Governors' Council are therefore asked to agree on a third indicator for examination by external audit.

