

FAO: CCG Clinical Leaders
and Intermediate Care
Providers
CC: CCG Accountable Officers

Professor John Young
National Clinical Director for
Integration & Frail Elderly
NHS England
Medical Directorate
Quarry House
Leeds
LS2 7UE

T: 01274 38 3406
John.Young@bthft.nhs.uk

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Dear Colleague

National Audit of Intermediate Care 2015

Some solutions can be hidden in plain sight. Those of us closely connected with intermediate care will certainly see these services as an important part of the solution for our overheated health and social care system. Perhaps it requires a time of austerity and an ageing population for the potential of intermediate care to be drawn into focus. The National Audit of Intermediate Care (NAIC) provides this focus laying out where we are, and the nature of the journey ahead.

The NAIC is now in its fourth year and is a large audit, covering 75 CCGs, 124 providers, 472 services and included over 12,000 service user responses in 2014. The purpose of the audit is to improve intermediate care services for older people by providing benchmarked information on service models, spend, activity, workforce and, importantly, outcomes. The audit collects organisational level data from participating commissioners and providers through an online data collection tool. In addition, service user and PREM data is collected on paper forms, supplied to participants and completed by clinicians and service users. Data collection will take place between May and July 2015 with reporting in November 2015.

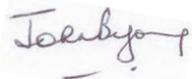
The 2015 audit will give us the opportunity to assess progress at the national level on the key challenges identified in the earlier iterations of the audit; patient experience, capacity and integration. Equally importantly, the audit will allow local services to benchmark their own performance against their peers and identify areas for service development and improvement. Uniquely, the audit has developed standardised clinical outcome measures and a Patient Reported Experience Measure, enabling intermediate care outcomes to be compared at both a national and local level.

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In many health and social care economies, intermediate care is a key component of the Better Care Fund (BCF). The audit will provide valuable evidence for you in monitoring and evaluating the success of the BCF and will assist you in making the case for investment.

NHS England is keen to encourage Clinical Commissioning Groups and providers of intermediate care to take part in the audit in 2015.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'John Young', written in black ink on a light-colored background.

Professor John Young
National Clinical Director for Integration and Frail Elderly
NHS England