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Public Health
Wales

Name of Meeting
Quality, Safety and
Improvement Committee

Date of Meeting
16th of June 2021

Agenda item:
12

Annual Quality and Clinical Audit Plan 2021/22

Executive lead: Rhiannon Beaumont-Wood, Executive Director,
Quality, Nursing and Allied Health Professionals

Author:

- ❖ Jessica Taylor, Quality Improvement and Clinical Audit Support Officer
- ❖ Paula Mitchell, Quality Improvement and Impact Facilitator
- ❖ Caroline Whittaker, Quality Lead

Approval/Scrutiny route:

- ❖ Business Executive Team
- ❖ Quality, Safety and Improvement Committee

Purpose:

The purpose of this paper is to present the 2021/22 Quality and Clinical Audit plan for approval to the Quality, Safety and Improvement Committee.

Recommendation:

APPROVE



CONSIDER



RECOMMEND



ADOPT



ASSURANCE



The Committee is asked to:

❖ **Approve** the content of the attached Quality and Clinical Audit Plan for 2021/22

Link to Public Health Wales Strategic Plan

Public Health Wales has an agreed strategic plan, which has identified seven strategic priorities and well-being objectives.

This report contributes to the following:

Strategic Priority/Well-being Objective	6 - Supporting the development of a sustainable health and care system focused on prevention and early intervention
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Summary impact analysis

Equality and Health Impact Assessment	An equality and health impact assessment is not required as there is no impact on policy or decisions relevant to Race, Disability and Gender duties.
Risk and Assurance	Welsh Government expects that all NHS organisations in Wales participate in quality and clinical audit. Healthcare organisations are required to have a cycle of continuous quality improvement that includes clinical audit.
Health and Care Standards	This report supports the Health and Care Standards for NHS Wales Theme 3 Effective Care Standard 3.3 Quality Improvement, Research and Innovation.
Financial implications	None
People implications	There is no anticipated impact on the workforce of Public Health Wales

1 Introduction

The purpose of this paper is to provide the Quality, Safety and Improvement Committee with the 2021/22 Quality and Clinical Audit Plan ("the Plan"). The Plan contains both National UK / Welsh (externally determined) and Local audits (internally determined) scheduled to be undertaken and completed during this period.

2 Background

An initial Quality and Clinical Audit Plan for Public Health Wales was developed for 2015/16. Each subsequent year has seen further development of the plan with the aim of ensuring that all quality and clinical audit data for a given financial year, is collated into one document.

The Quality Safety and Improvement Committee highlighted in 2021 that a wider organisational focus should be considered to reflect the breadth of the organisation and areas of public health practice.

We have incorporated additional quality and clinical audits reflecting a broader perspective across Public Health Wales

3 Description

3.1 How the Plan has been developed

Within the Quality and Clinical Audit Plan, six National UK/Welsh (externally generated) audits were identified, and 25 local (internally generated audits) bringing the total to 31 audits. The full list of audits and their details are listed in Appendix 1.

During 2021-22 our focus will be to engage and encourage all Directorates to undertake audit in their area. We have engaged with programme leads, and colleagues from various directorates and divisions involved in quality and clinical audit to discuss their planned audits for the year. These agreed audits have been included within the 2021-22 Plan (Appendix 1). We have linked the planned audits to the Health and Care Standards as they will form part of the core evidence for our self-assessment.

Quarterly updates for the Quality and Clinical Audit Plan will be obtained from directorates, who have been encouraged to consider including audits to the Plan throughout the year in response to issues that may arise, such as incidents or concerns, or changes to standard operating procedures. Any changes to the Plan will be updated in interim and year-end reports.

The Plan reflects the range of quality and clinical audits being undertaken across divisions within the organisation.

The Microbiology Division have been engaged, and confirm they undertake an extensive quality assurance audit programme, as required by regulatory and compliance procedures, and reported quarterly to UKAS. Due to the scope of this work, it has not been included in the Plan, however a synopsis of this programme of audit work will be included in the interim and year-end report. In addition, any clinical audits that arise from the Microbiology Clinical Governance Group will be included in the Plan.

3.2 Developing and implementing changes and improvement

The April 2021 the Quality Safety and Improvement Committee Performance and Effectiveness Review highlighted the Committee's desire to receive further insight into the quality and clinical audit programme. This included requests for the Plan to identify emerging themes from across different areas, and the strengths and weaknesses identified in audit results to be included in reporting and to inform the subsequent year's Plan.

Next Steps

Now that the organisation is entering into the Recovery phase of our Emergency planning, the Quality and Clinical Audit Procedure will be reviewed and updated to take into account these developments. Furthermore, this review will ensure the Procedure is in line with the Public Health Wales Quality Improvement Strategy and any expectations identified in the forthcoming implementation of The Health and Social Care (Quality and Engagement) (Wales) Act 2020.

We will also work closely with the Board Business Unit to explore opportunities to take a more integrated approach to future planning, of Internal Audit and Quality and Clinical audit, and how information is presented to different Committees.

Improving audit capability

Since March 2019, PHW has worked with Clinical Audit Support Centre Ltd to provide Clinical Audit Masterclass Training to 62 colleagues. This bespoke training day provides a full understanding of the clinical audit process and practical guidance on how to undertake audit, and is accredited at level 3. A new evaluation process of this training has been developed in order to capture improved audit capability in the organisation by measuring participant's understanding and confidence, as well as level of involvement in audit, before they did the training and again at 6 months afterwards. This new process was rolled out on the last cohort to undertake the training in March 2021, and the results will be included in the next report.

3.3 Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015

This below information follows the five ways of working, as defined within the sustainable development principle in the Act, in the following ways:



An annual audit plan is conducted to support services to engage in activities to continuously improve by evaluating, developing and implementing innovative ways of working. The plan demonstrates the organisations commitment of continuous improvement



Where possible Public Health Wales seeks to validate the efficacy of its practice and to make continuous improvements. The annual audit plan is integral to supporting this work.



The audit plan impacts a number of the wellbeing goals, including "A Resilient Wales" and "A More Equal Wales"



The annual audit plan contains work across UK and Wales and includes other NHS bodies working together with Public Health Wales NHS Trust to provide the best outcomes



The audit plan is an important aspect of the organisation's governance arrangements, and, as such, helps the organisation to improve the quality and safeguard the high standards of the services provided by Public Health Wales

4 Recommendation(s)

- ❖ Quality, Safety and Improvement Committee is asked to **approve** the content of the attached Annual Quality and Clinical Audit Plan 2021/22.