

The SANITAS project

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Why a fresh approach in Europe?

- Evidence of variation in current policy and practice among hospitals
- Fragmented certification, accreditation and regulation across borders
- No central clearing house in Europe for guidance on hospital organisation
- No formal mechanism to share best practice

Why independent of governments?

- Three intergovernmental organisations in Europe – WHO, CoE, EC
- With few exceptions, healthcare is the legal responsibility of national governments
- Effective control is delegated to regional governments eg Spain, Italy, Germany, UK
- Consensus on achievable safe hospital practice will not be achieved by governments

Aims of European hospital standards for quality and safety

- Consistent hospital assessment criteria to inform patients, public and payers
- Develop systems for quality and safety in hospitals; reduce unacceptable variation
- Integrate evidence-based and authoritative guidance to managers and clinicians

Project design

- Map existing European guidance, directives etc into a toolkit for hospital assessment
- Field test draft by voluntary self-assessment in a sample of hospitals
- Peer review to validate self-assessments, identify training needs (phase 2)
- Evaluate the guidance, assessment procedure and compliance (phase 2)

Principal sources

- Council of Europe
- WHO: EURO, Observatory, HQ
- EU guidance:
 - Legislation, directives
 - Parliament, council, directorates
- EC research:
 - proposals, reports, publications
- Secondary: NGOs, national agencies

Principal themes

- Safety
 - patients
 - Staff
 - environment
- Patients' rights
- Workforce, qualifications, skills
- Clinical practice

Patient safety

- Policy
 - Recommendations Council of Europe 2005
 - EC Luxembourg Declaration 2005
 - EC “high level group” on patient mobility
- Projects
 - WHO: Global alliance 2004
 - SIMPATIE: EC mapping across states
 - EUNetPAS, HAS, Paris
 - Joint Action

Evidence of variation: 89 hospitals 6 countries (MARQuIS 2009)

	%
Governing body receives no information on quality, safety	31
No records held of registration with nursing council	13
No regular review of medical staff	58
No records kept of basic life support training	20
No pre-employment medical screening of food handlers	29
Infection control committee not met in past year	30
Access to neonatal nursery not controlled	39

Chapter headings

1	Mission & Governance, Safety Management Systems
2	Patient Orientation
3	Workforce
4	Clinical practice and patient care
5	Hygiene and Infection
6	Human tissue and transfusion
7	Hospital facilities management
8	Medication
9	Surgery, Interventional Procedures & Anaesthesia
10	Records and Communication



Self Assessment for Patient Safety in Hospitals

SANITAS Project

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