"Completing the pre-hospital Clinical Governance loop"

"Forming a [Inter-] National Information Sharing and Learning Network for Pre-Hospital Teams – a collaborative approach proposal"

Mr Scott Hepburn, Emergency Medicine and EMRS Consultant
Dr Chris Moultrie, Emergency Medicine and EMRS

NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde

Introduction

The use of a managed clinical governance system within any clinical service is paramount to ensure appropriate quality care to our patients, and safety to our team members. Arguably within the pre-hospital and aeromedical settings, the additional risks of working in a hazardous dynamic environment mean a robust mechanism for adverse event reporting and analysis is essential. Most services have an internal process for reviewing their adverse events, however to date there is no mechanism for cascading learning outcomes across other agencies.

We would like to propose the formation of a managed network across participating pre-hospital and aeromedical teams that allows the periodic collation and distribution of shared knowledge and learning outcomes.

The current "gold standard" for information sharing is demonstrated by the aviation industry, who have a robust system for mandatory event reporting. We have transferred the key concepts of the aviation model by way of event categorisation and summary bulletins to our proposed model, allowing a common approach to event analysis. The use of lower-acuity "occurrence" reporting allows longitudinal audit of key areas, such as equipment failure.

		Domain	
		Patient	System
Severity	Critical	*Critical Event*	
	Significant	*Major Physiological Event*	*Equipment*
		Minor Physiological Event	*Other*
		Other Patient Event	

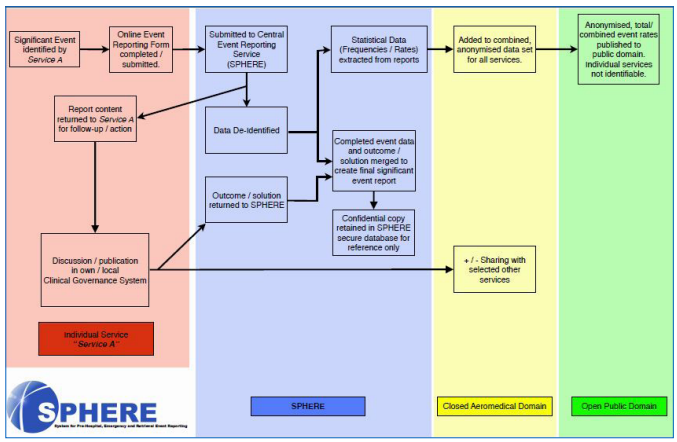
Keep it Simple to Start! - proposal

In the initial period, participating teams submit a summary of adverse events for an agreed period using pre-structured templates. The templates will ask for a brief background, nature of the event, contributing factors and suggested learning outcomes or actions taken. The responsibility for "analysis and action" remains with the parent organisation, but the events are submitted in an open and honest manner. The submitted information is collated and distributed across the network electronically for subsequent cascade within their own organisation.

Audit of the submitted information would allow an overview of the overall risks to our teams and patients, and facilitate good safe care whilst minimising the environmental hazards. This mechanism would allow participating teams to compare and validate their clinical governance systems against National Standards.

Aspirations for the Future…

The System for Pre-Hospital Event Reporting (SPHERE) is an online tool that we have developed to act as a mechanism for adverse event reporting. With time, we would propose that it could be used as the first line reporting tool for adverse events, which in turn would be fed back to the parent organisation for investigation and action.



Contact details

Twitter @SPHEREreporting

www.sphere.scot.nhs.uk

SPHERE
System for Pre-Hospital, Emergency and Retrieval Event Reporting

MIS 262725