

Developing and implementing a single maternity IT system across Humber, Coast and Vale: an update

Progress to date

The Humber, Coast and Vale Local Maternity System (LMS) has put together a project to specify, procure and implement a single maternity IT system across the region which will meet the needs of our local women and families, support safer and higher-quality care and enable staff to have a full overview as the pregnancy and birth progresses.

Currently there is a steering group meeting regularly to oversee this work, and working groups around; safety, quality and governance, technology and information, finance and contracting, and communications and engagement to support the ongoing work required. There have been a number of engagement events for potential suppliers to describe their products, mapping of the 'as-is' processes in each trust has taken place, and we have put together a draft specification. Over the summer we will continue to work to work up appropriate questions for the main evaluation and ensure the specification is robust and reflects our local needs.

Next steps

From September each trust will also take part in some 'to-be' process mapping to describe our ambitions for new ways of working and service transformation that can take place alongside the implementation of a new system.

Key benefits identified so far

- *Reduce time waiting for access to medical records:* currently any medical information is transferred (electronic/paper versions) following a specific request to access. Takes time to process and then there is a time delay whilst the sender collates the records and sends to the requestor. Expected to improve interoperability/improved patient experience/reduction in waste.
- *Save time by not having to register patient in multiple systems:* currently the mother and her history has to be registered into every clinical system that she encounters. Each registration takes time to complete and check for accuracy. Expected to improve interoperability/improved patient experience/reduction in waste.



- *Improved service for mother not having to repeat medical information:* currently expectant mother carries all paper notes to each appointment. She is responsible for alerting clinicians to key information and repeating a summary of the current status to date. Expected to improve interoperability/improved patient experience/reduction in waste/reduction in information governance (IG) breaches.
- *Improved IG compliance of electronic notes:* currently expectant mother carries all paper notes to each appointment. These can be lost, stolen or damaged resulting in a data breach. Expected to improve interoperability/improved patient experience/reduction in waste/reduction in IG breaches.
- *Improved decision making for clinicians as all medical information is available at point of care:* currently expectant mothers are responsible for sharing or withholding information from clinicians or other health care providers. There is often a time delay from requesting to receiving information. Clinicians may not have sufficient information to support effective decision making. Expected to improve interoperability/improved patient experience/reduction in waste/reduction in IG breaches.
- *Improved service efficiencies:* reduction in delays as some referrals can be made electronically due to interoperability. Expected to improve interoperability/improved patient experience/reduction in waste.
- *Reduction of unnecessary appointments:* teams (eg. screening) are currently notified manually/verbally following a loss or early delivery. Due to the time it takes for services to be contacted there are sometimes wasted appointments. Expected to improve interoperability/improved patient experience/reduction in waste.
- *Reduction of duplication of data:* time saved if some data can be automatically transferred from mum's record to the baby's and vice versa as currently done manually. Expected to improve interoperability/reduction in waste.
- *Reduction in paper/printing costs:* currently there are many pieces of paper printed or written on throughout the pregnancy. This could be reduced by digitising the process. Expected reduction in waste.

For more information about the progress of the single maternity IT system please contact:

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