

The Benefits of undertaking audits in Social Care

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Background

Audits are part of the quality assurance and improvement cycle for care providers. They involve a review of local and regulated safe systems of work and practice against the agreed standards for high-quality care.

Undertaking these audits includes taking action to ensure that the practice aligns with standards to improve experience, environment, outcomes, and quality of care for service users and indeed the carers.

All care homes can use clinical audits to conduct checks in different areas of care. These can include but not limited to, observations of practice, infection control audits, health and safety standards and many more.

Its worth highlighting that as well as being able to demonstrate the good practice being delivered through auditing it can also highlight areas that need improvement so care services can continue to improve



- Identify the areas that need auditing - review own policies
- Determine the frequency of audit – ? Annual or monthly
- Create an audit calendar
- Ensure staff aware of scheduled audits
- Test colleagues understanding of why they do things they are required to do (I.e., Infection Control best practice, safeguarding, moving, and handling, etc.
- Document the results
- Reporting any findings - reviewed with managers for development of any action plan
- Implementation of improvement plan should be monitored.
- A follow-up audit to ensure that any improvements put in place are working
- Create an annual summary audit report



Kent and Medway
Integrated Care System

Examples of audits to consider



- Competencies
- Stat and Mand Training
- IPC
- Handwashing
- Cleaning schedule of equipment used
- Clinical Waste storage correct
- MAR charts completed
- Storage of medication – dates checked and logged
- Fridge temperatures recorded and within range
- Calibration of equipment
- Documentation audits
- Incidents
- Complaints



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▶ Courses

Calendar

September 2023

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

Available courses

Quality Improvement Training Bronze Level

The Improvement Academy has developed this Bronze entry-level Quality Improvement training to be available free of charge to anyone interested in improving the quality of health or social care. Our Bronze QI training can be used on a 'stand-alone' basis or as entry to our more advanced Silver Quality Improvement Training.

This e-learning offers an introduction to quality improvement and includes a broad spectrum of foundation knowledge, including an overview of the concepts of quality improvement and an introduction to the Model for Improvement. Each of the modules ends with a short quiz. The training takes no more than 45 minutes to complete and completion of all the modules and certificates of completion can be printed off.

Educational Grants

We provide grants to individuals to undertake community nursing courses.



We are not currently giving grants for study at external institutions. Our education grant bursary is currently available for the [QNI Aspiring Leaders Programme](#). A grant of £1000 is available per applicant to go towards the full course fee of £5000.

The Aspiring Nurse Leaders Programme is designed to support the professional development of nurses working in the community to become future leaders in healthcare, to the benefit of the people, families and communities they serve.

This grant is only available to those applicants that are self-funding. If you have any queries regarding this course or fees, please contact qnileaders@qni.org.uk.

Applications are considered on a discretionary basis and assessed individually.

If you wish to find out more or discuss any aspect of our education grants programme, please email justine.curtis@qni.org.uk.

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Financial Help

Rising Fuel Prices – Actions to Support Nurses

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How we help

Educational Grants

Other sources of help

Keep in Touch

Links for Nurses

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We have many kinds of resources available online for nurses working in the community.

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Care Home Nurses Network



The Care Home Nurses Network is a jointly funded initiative by the Chief Nursing Officer England, the Queen's Nursing Institute and the RCN Foundation.

- Would you like to be part of a national network of nurses working in the care home setting?
- Would you like to learn from and listen to the latest research, best practice, innovation and policy?
- Do you want to feel energised and motivated by the network?
- Do you want to use your voice and get involved in the work the QNI does, to represent your discipline within Nursing?

To join the network, please register your details [here](#) and choose the "Care Home Nurses Network" as your area of interest. You can also sign up for email updates from us and join other QNI networks.

Transition to Care Home Nursing Resource

Transition to Care Home Nursing is an information resource for nurses working in a care home setting.

The resource, written by Queen's Nurse Sharon Aldridge-Bent, is structured into ten chapters on subjects including the fundamentals of nursing care, safe working and regulation, adults at risk, dementia care, building relationships with family, and career development.

The resource is intended for registered nurses who have responsibility for nursing within the care home environment, as well as educators, students, and unregistered carers. As with its other Transition resources, the QNI recommends that Transition to Care Home Nursing is used with the support of an experienced mentor.

Downloads

- Chapter 1 - Introduction
- Chapter 2 - Making the Transition
- Chapter 3 - Safe Working and Regulation in Care Home Nursing
- Chapter 4 - Resident Focus - Fundamentals of Nursing Home Care
- Chapter 5 - Dementia Care
- Chapter 6 - The Effective Multidisciplinary Team
- Chapter 7 - Working with Adults at Risk
- Chapter 8 - Supporting Relatives and Friends with Transition of Care
- Chapter 9 - Responding to Policy and Capturing Evidence
- Chapter 10 - Developing a Career in Home Nursing

To join the network, please register your details [here](#) and choose the "Care Home Nurses Network" as your area of interest. You can also sign up for updates from the QNI and our Homeless Health Network.

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← Nursing in the Community

▼ Transition Resources

District Nursing

Transition to Care Home Nursing

General Practice

School Nursing

Homeless and Inclusion Health

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Queens Nursing Institute Resources



HOME / NEWS / NEW EDUCATION AND PRACTICE STANDARDS FOR CARE HOME NURSES LAUNCHED

New Education and Practice Standards for Care Home Nurses Launched

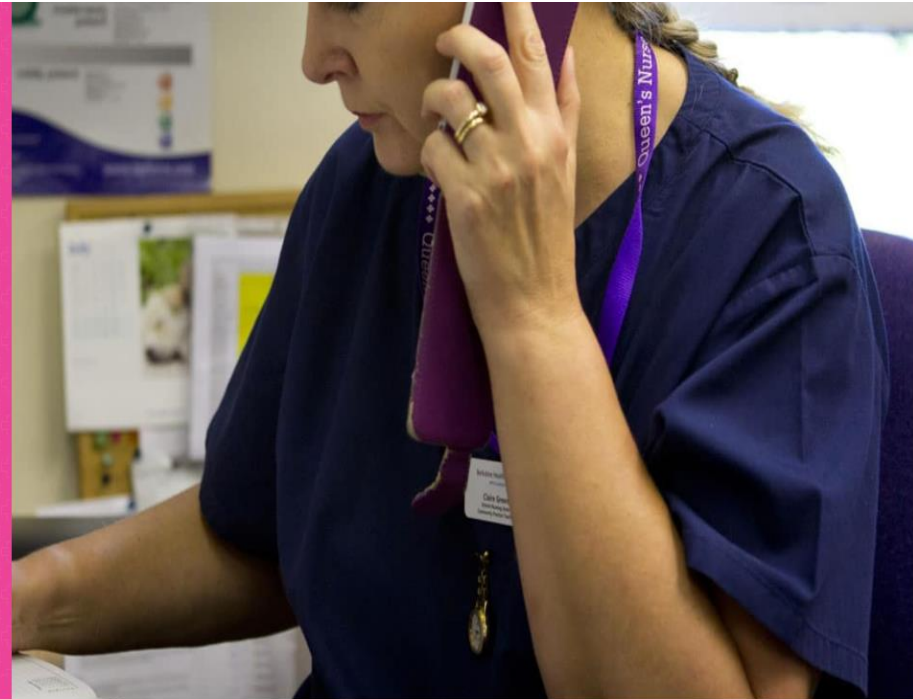
2 February 2021



Queens Nursing Institute Resources

Talk to Us© - the QNI Listening Service

TalkToUs@qni.org.uk



The QNI's listening service, TalkToUs©, offers emotional support by phone to registered nurses working in the community.

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▼ Help for Nurses

Thank you

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