Response to NHS Chief Executive’s Open Call for Evidence and Ideas

Respondent ID: 14

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Type of response: Email
Dear Review Team

I am a former Director of Service Development and Commissioning for a PCT in the North West. I left at Christmas under the MARS scheme and now work for myself.

I am particularly concerned with the adoption of improvement methodologies such as productive ward and productive theatre.

These are proven improvement methodologies – the III has been absolutely clear about the potential saving to the NHS of adopting these – it is a scandal if Trusts aren’t using the productive series.

What holds Trusts back may be the cost (£25k is a drop in the ocean for most Trusts), clinical engagement (consultants and nurses primarily) or the fact that it isn’t compulsory.

If the NHS was run like a business, all units / outlets / centres would be required to implement a corporate improvement – why can’t that be the case with the NHS?

If you are as convinced as I am that the productive series works, and should be implemented in all but the smallest minority of cases (and there should be a formal ‘opt out’ not an ‘opt in’) then make them compulsory!!!

If we stop expecting people to adopt good practice out of the goodness of their hearts, when they have the time and the money, and instead made it a target or made it a key feature in next year’s operating plan then you might get some results!!

Kind regards, Clare

Clare Powell