



The Royal College of Anaesthetists

Educating, Training and Setting Standards in Anaesthesia,
Critical Care and Pain Medicine

Chief Executive
Kevin Storey

Churchill House
35 Red Lion Square
London WC1R 4SG

tel: 020 7092 1500

fax: 020 7092 1730

email: info@rcoa.ac.uk

web: www.rcoa.ac.uk

Dr Andrew Norton
Society for Computing & Technology in Anaesthesia

October 2014

Dear Dr Norton,

The Royal College of Anaesthetists (RCoA) Perioperative Medicine Programme

The RCoA are undertaking a major programme of work led by Professor Monty Mythen, RCoA Council Member, to ensure the continued development of Perioperative Medicine and to develop the role of the Anaesthetist as the Perioperative Physician so as to help patients get the greatest benefit from their surgery.

Care of the surgical patient is increasingly recognised to rely on a coordinated approach to healthcare by an integrated, multi-disciplinary team. Changes in population, increasing co-morbidities and the complexity of surgical procedures, will require further formalisation of care pathways in which specialists will need to collaborate to address the perioperative needs of the patient.

The scope of our work includes a revision of our CCT Curriculum to include more perioperative medicine and the development of national standards for perioperative medicine, relevant to the multi-professional team. Any new developments will ideally need to be supported by evidence that demonstrates increased patient benefit and safety, while ensuring efficiency.

We need your help

In a specialty built around team working, we recognise that in order to influence the delivery of consistent and cohesive perioperative care, collaboration with our stakeholders is essential. To that end we will be holding a Stakeholder Engagement Event at the RCoA on Friday 23rd January 2015 to which we would like to invite you or a representation to attend. Please confirm to Miss Maddy Humphrey at mhumphrey@rcoa.ac.uk whether you are able to accept our invitation.

As part of our engagement work, we also wish to produce a short document that sets out our vision for the future of perioperative medicine. In the document we will describe the surgical care pathway with a focus on the points where the multi-disciplinary team, including the anaesthetist, practice and/or influence perioperative medicine to improve the patient's care. One area of great importance to communication both within and between the primary and secondary care sectors is the provision of effective information technology services.

We are looking for examples of exemplary provision of IT, in different hospital settings and across the NHS. As recognised experts in your specialist area, do you have knowledge of where such facilities currently exist, either in a hospital, Trust, or region wide?

We are looking for 2-3 short vignettes (of approximately 300 words) that describe this provision, and would like to include at least one of these vignettes in our document. We would be grateful if you could cover where this IT currently exists, what specifically it includes/how it works, how it could be extended to other locations, what the costs are, and its benefits to clinicians and patients undergoing surgery.

The RCoA: Advancing Patient Care and Promoting Safety

Patron: HRH The Princess Royal

REGISTERED CHARITY NO: 1013887 VAT REGISTRATION NO: GB 927 2364 18 REGISTERED CHARITY IN SCOTLAND NO: SC037737



The Royal College of Anaesthetists

Educating, Training and Setting Standards in Anaesthesia,
Critical Care and Pain Medicine

Chief Executive
Kevin Storey

Churchill House
35 Red Lion Square
London WC1R 4SG

tel: 020 7092 1500

fax: 020 7092 1730

email: info@rcoa.ac.uk

web: www.rcoa.ac.uk

Please could you kindly email any vignettes to the Perioperative Medicine Programme Coordinator, Miss Maddy Humphrey at mhumphrey@rcoa.ac.uk. It would be extremely helpful if you could also supply the contact details of a named individual who we may approach, should we wish to ask for more details. We are working to a challenging timeline and would be very grateful to hear from you by Wednesday 22nd October.

I appreciate that you may want some additional information to complete this work and either myself or, Ms Sharon Drake, the RCoA Director of Education and Research, would be happy to discuss this with you in more detail by telephone. Therefore, please do not hesitate to contact Miss Maddy Humphrey at mhumphrey@rcoa.ac.uk or on 020 7092 1678 if you have any questions or require further information.

We look forward to collaborating closely with you in our programme of work and to welcoming you to our event next year.

Yours faithfully,

Chair

Perioperative Medicine Standards and Service Design Task and Finish Group

The RCoA: Advancing Patient Care and Promoting Safety

Patron: HRH The Princess Royal

REGISTERED CHARITY NO: 1013887 VAT REGISTRATION NO: GB 927 2364 18 REGISTERED CHARITY IN SCOTLAND NO: SC037737