



Independent Healthcare  
Providers Network

# IHPN Patient Safety Incident Response Framework Conference

28 June 2023



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# Chair's welcome

Dawn Hodgkins, Director of  
Regulation, IHPN

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# Opening Remarks

Tracey Herlihey, Head of Patient  
Safety Incident Response Policy at  
NHS England

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# Speaking Up & Just Culture

Dr Katie Grant, Risk Prevention  
Medico Legal Lead, The Medical  
Protection Society



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# Selected references for Medical Protection talk IHPN PSIRF study day

- [Fostering a global Speaking Up movement \(cognitiveinstitute.org\)](https://cognitiveinstitute.org/)
- Alan Frankel and Michael Leonard
- <https://www.health.org.uk/sites/default/files/HowCanLeadersInfluenceASafetyCulture.pdf>
- Alan Frankel
- [A Framework for Safe, Reliable, and Effective Care | IHI - Institute for Healthcare Improvement](#)
- Safety Culture Ladder described by Patrick Hudson, Delft Uni, Netherlands
- A number of interesting resources here:
- [Moving up the culture ladder by Professor Patrick Hudson | Safe Work Australia](#)
- [Swati Gaur](#) et al., [J Am Med Dir Assoc.](#) 2022 Feb; 23(2): 241–246.

- Integrating Principles of Safety Culture and Just Culture Into Nursing Homes: Lessons From the Pandemic
- Tasker A, Jones J, Brake S
- [How effectively has a Just Culture been adopted? A qualitative study to analyse the attitudes and behaviours of clinicians and managers to clinical incident management within an NHS Hospital Trust and identify enablers and barriers to achieving a Just Cu... | BMJ Open Quality](#)
- [Being fair 2 - NHS Resolution](#)
- Schwappach DL, Gehring K. Trade-offs between voice and silence: a qualitative exploration of oncology staff's decisions to speak up about safety concerns. BMC Health Serv Res. 2014 Jul 14;14:303
- Schwappach D, Richard A. Speak up-related climate and its association with healthcare workers' speaking up and withholding voice behaviours: a cross-sectional survey in Switzerland. BMJ Qual Saf. 2018 Oct;27(10):827-835. doi: 10.1136/bmjqs-2017-007388. Epub 2018 Mar 23
- Maxfield, D., Grenny, J., McMillan, R., Patterson, K., & Switzler, A.

- [Silence Kills: The Seven Crucial Conversations for Healthcare. | PSNet \(ahrq.gov\)](#)
- [The Silent Treatment: Why Safety Tools and Checklists Aren't Enough - Patient Safety & Quality Healthcare \(psqh.com\)](#)
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- Barzallo Salazar MJ, Minkoff H, Bayya J, Gillett B, Onoriode H, Weedon J, Altshuler L, Fisher N. Influence of surgeon behaviour on trainee willingness to speak up: a randomized controlled trial. *J Am Coll Surg.* 2014 Nov; 219(5):1001-7
- 
- Katz D, Blasius K, Isaak R, *et al.* Exposure to incivility hinders clinical performance in a simulated operative crisis
- *BMJ Quality & Safety* 2019;**28**:750-757.



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# How Quality Improvement fits in to the new PSIRF framework

Deborah Widdowson, Assistant  
Director of QI and Midlands  
Regional Patient Safety Specialist

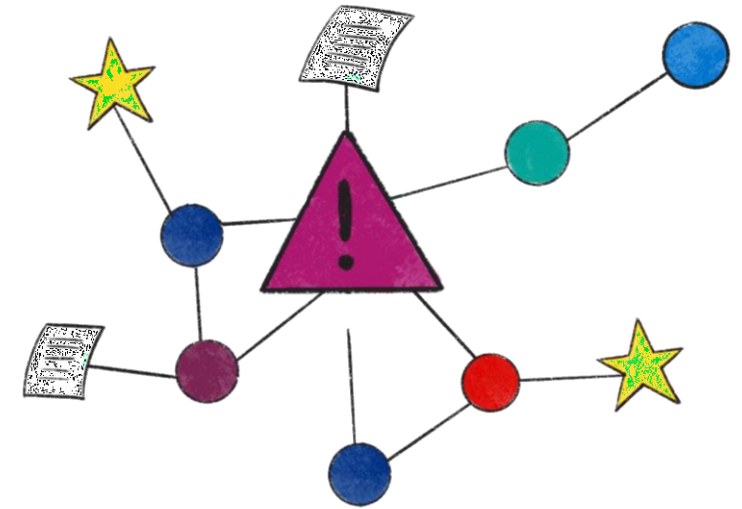


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# PSIRF: bridging the gap between patient safety and quality improvement



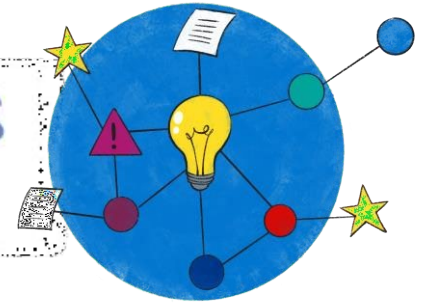
Debbie Widdowson, Assistant Director of Quality & Improvement

# Achieving effective learning and improvement



COMPASSIONATE ENGAGEMENT & INVOLVEMENT OF THOSE AFFECTED BY PATIENT SAFETY INCIDENTS

APPLICATION OF A RANGE OF SYSTEM BASED APPROACHES TO LEARNING FROM PATIENT SAFETY INCIDENTS



CONSIDERED AND PROPORTIONATE RESPONSES TO PATIENT SAFETY INCIDENTS

SUPPORTIVE OVERSIGHT FOCUSED ON STRENGTHENING RESPONSE SYSTEM FUNCTIONING AND IMPROVEMENT



# PSIRF is a Social Movement

- PSIRF is NOT an investigation framework
- Serious Incidents no longer feature
- PSIRF sets out a new approach to achieving effective learning and improvement following patient safety incidents
- It embeds patient safety incident response within a wider system of improvement
- Supports a significant shift in safety culture
- Prompts a move away from a reactive and bureaucratic approach to safety to a more proactive approach
- Testing and revision has been a formal part of the development cycle



# Bridging the Gap



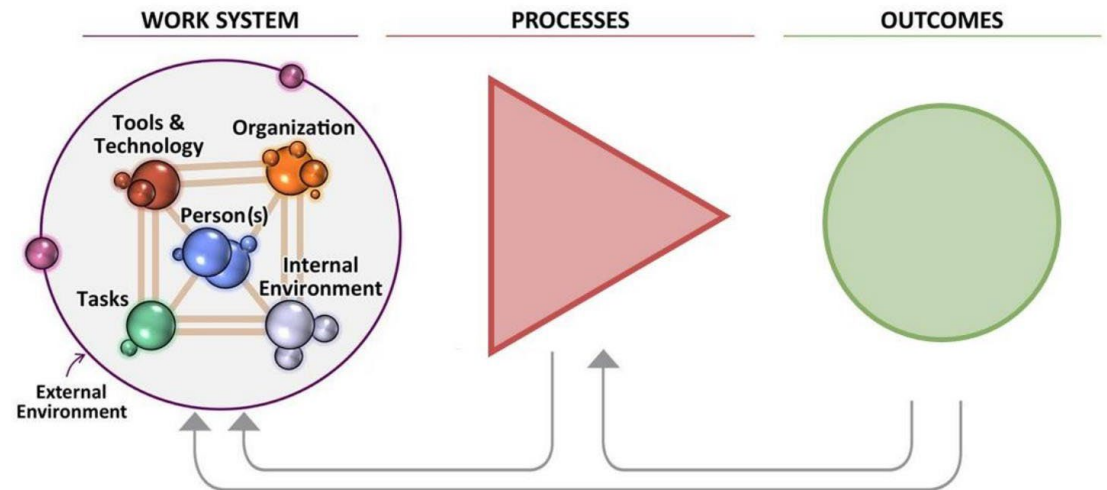
- PSIRF is an opportunity to bring greater alignment between quality improvement and patient safety
- Using insight gathered from patient safety incident response in a more integrated way across organisations.
- Less individual actions and more quality
- Working together and sharing common goals
- Breaking down barriers and removing silo working
- Learning responses can be part of the planning work for quality improvement

# Using a Systems-based Approach

Looking at the components of a system and understanding their interdependencies and how those interdependencies may contribute to patient safety.

Patient safety is an emergent property of the healthcare system, it comes from interactions and not from a single component

A system-based approach will identify where changes need to be made and then monitored within the system to improve patient safety.



# Balancing Response & Improvement



- PSIRF supports organisations to respond to incidents in a way that maximises learning and improvement.
- Organisations can explore patient safety incidents relevant to their context and populations, rather than only those that meet a certain threshold.
- Some events require a specific type of policy or regulatory response.
- PSIRF sets no further national rules or thresholds to determine what method of response should be used
- Organisations are now able to **balance effort between learning through responding to incidents or exploring issues and improvement work.**

# Patient safety incident response activity

	Learning to inform improvement	Improvement based on learning	Assessment to determine required response
Circumstances in which to apply activity type	Contributory factors are not well understood and local improvement work is minimal, a learning response may be required to fully understand the context and underlying factors that influenced the outcome.	Where a safety issue or incident type is well understood and resources are better directed at improvement rather than repeat investigation.	For issues or incidents where it is not clear whether a learning response is required
Possible methods	Patient safety incident investigation, Swarm Huddle, After Action Review	Thematic reviews, horizon scanning	Structured judgement reviews, case note reviews

# Safety Improvement Plans



- Safety improvement plans bring together findings from various responses to patient safety incidents and issues.
- They can take different forms:
  - Organisation-wide plans summarising improvement work
  - Individual plans focusing on a specific service, pathway, or location
  - Outputs from learning responses to single incidents where there are underlying, interlinked system issues
  - A plan to tackle broad areas for improvement (ie overarching system issues)
- Decide which approach is best suited to the data you have, and insight gained.
- The key is to demonstrate why a specific safety improvement plan approach is the right one based on available data.
- There are no thresholds for when a safety improvement plan should be developed. It must be based on knowledge gained through the learning response process and other relevant data.





If you'd like to find out more, visit: [www.england.nhs.uk/patient-safety/incident-response-framework](http://www.england.nhs.uk/patient-safety/incident-response-framework)





# Shared learning: Bevan Brittan & West Suffolk NHS Foundation Trust Early Adopter Site

Hannah Taylor, Partner, Bevan Brittan  
Lucy Winstanley, Head of Patient Safety and Quality,  
Patient Safety Specialist, West Suffolk NHS  
Foundation Trust  
Megan Pontin, Patient Safety Incident Investigator,  
West Suffolk NHS Foundation Trust

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## Patient Safety

# Bevan Brittan & West Suffolk NHS Foundation Trust - Early Adopter Site Shared learning

Hannah Taylor, Partner, Bevan Brittan  
Megan Pontin, patient safety incident investigator  
Lucy Winstanley, head of patient safety and quality

# QUESTION



# Introduction

- PSIRF pilot launched in 2019 by NHSE in conjunction with the NHS Patient Safety Strategy
- Delayed by the COVID pandemic response and relaunched in 2020
- WSFT - Acute and integrated health provider for adult and children in West Suffolk
- Part of regional network with integrated care system and other organisations in the East
- Early adopter of PSIRF since 1st February 2021
- Now live with our third year of PSIRF and our third Patient Safety Incident Response Plan (PSIRP)



# Objectives of PSIRF

What these mean to our organisation

## Improved use of resource

- Team structure – introduction of PSI
- Able to focus resource differently

## Broadened approach to learning

- Opportunity to use systems-thinking and move away from root causes
- Different tools for proportionate response

## Improved experience for those affected

- Putting patients at the centre of the investigation
- Ensure good mechanisms for staff support

## Strengthened governance and oversight

- Develop new processes
- Accountability sits with organisation
- Responsible for quality and outcomes



West Suffolk  
NHS Foundation Trust

# Introducing PSIRF – Challenges and changes

# QUESTION





# Change from Serious Incident Framework (SIF) to PSIRF

## SIF

- The priorities for more in depth investigation were set at national level
- Root cause analysis (RCA) methodology used
- Decision about the level of investigation (serious incident RCA or local RCA) usually based on level of harm-actual or potential
- 60 day timeframe
- Oversight by commissioners

## PSIRF

- The proportionate learning response/investigation is agreed at local level (with some national requirements)
- Decision about which incidents should be considered for patient safety incident investigation (PSII) is based on incidents which look to present the greatest risk to our patients and which will provide the greatest opportunity for learning
- A local plan is required - the organisation's Patient Safety Incident Response Plan (PSIRP)
- We review our PSIRP each year
- No set timeframe
- PSII's reported on STEIS. Systems and processes for governance are managed locally.

# Developing our Year 1 PSIRP

Ensure incidents for local PSII are narrowly defined  
NHSE recommend -  
3-6 narrowly defined PSII are recommended to identify common underlying factors

Select incidents for local patient safety incident investigation based on the:

- actual and potential impact of the incident's outcome (harm to people, service quality, public confidence, products, funds,
- likelihood of recurrence (including scale, scope and spread)
- potential for new learning and improvement in terms of:
  - knowledge and understanding of the deep-seated underlying factors
  - opportunity to influence efficiency and effectiveness
  - opportunity to influence wider system improvement

# Developing our PSIRP each year – the document

**Patient safety risks identified through the following sources:**

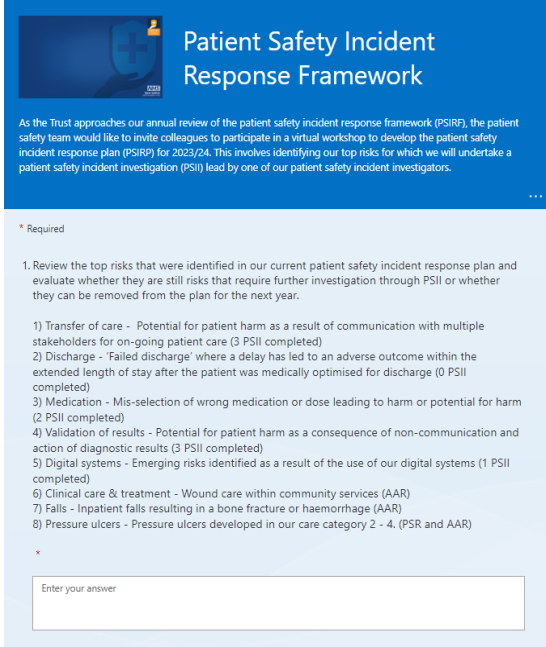
- Analysis of three years of Datix incident data for PSIRP year 1(2018-20), then yearly
- Detailed thematic analysis of Datix incident data
- Key themes from complaints/PALS/claims/inquests
- Key themes from specialist safety and quality committees (e.g. deteriorating patient, falls and pressure ulcers)
- Output of stakeholder event discussions



# Collaborative workshops

To define patient safety risks and responses for the yearly PSIRP, the following were involved:

- Trust wide workshops
- Divisional representation
- Quality and safety partners
- Review of patient safety metrics
- In future aim to incorporate wider patient perspective into future planning through introduction of patient safety partners



**Patient Safety Incident Response Framework**

As the Trust approaches our annual review of the patient safety incident response framework (PSIRF), the patient safety team would like to invite colleagues to participate in a virtual workshop to develop the patient safety incident response plan (PSIRP) for 2023/24. This involves identifying our top risks for which we will undertake a patient safety incident investigation (PSII) lead by one of our patient safety incident investigators.

\* Required

1. Review the top risks that were identified in our current patient safety incident response plan and evaluate whether they are still risks that require further investigation through PSII or whether they can be removed from the plan for the next year.

- 1) Transfer of care - Potential for patient harm as a result of communication with multiple stakeholders for on-going patient care (3 PSII completed)
- 2) Discharge - 'Failed discharge' where a delay has led to an adverse outcome within the extended length of stay after the patient was medically optimised for discharge (0 PSII completed)
- 3) Medication - Mis-selection of wrong medication or dose leading to harm or potential for harm (2 PSII completed)
- 4) Validation of results - Potential for patient harm as a consequence of non-communication and action of diagnostic results (3 PSII completed)
- 5) Digital systems - Emerging risks identified as a result of the use of our digital systems (1 PSII completed)
- 6) Clinical care & treatment - Wound care within community services (AAR)
- 7) Falls - Inpatient falls resulting in a bone fracture or haemorrhage (AAR)
- 8) Pressure ulcers - Pressure ulcers developed in our care category 2 - 4. (PSR and AAR)

Enter your answer

# What to investigate?

- Use our **Patient Safety Incident Response Plan**
- The organisation must determine ‘which categories of incident are priorities locally and require an investigation’
- Nationally mandated incident categories requiring PSII: **never events, learning from deaths, referred incidents e.g. HSIB, NHSEI, LeDeR**
- There is no nationally agreed or recommended annual minimum or maximum number of PSIIIs each organisation should undertake
- There are no stipulated timeframes and no requirement for external scrutiny
- We have developed working documents for specialist areas such as IPC

# The EIR – emerging incident review

## Four key questions

- **What is the incident?** Brief synopsis of events by clinician who has been involved or has oversight. Confirm harm grading
- **What is the most proportionate response?** Does the incident meet PSII using our plan. What would the most proportionate learning response be
- **Has Duty of Candour been achieved?** Recognise statutory DoC remains. Who would be best to do this. Would a being open conversation be more appropriate
- **What do staff need in terms of support?** Is there anything further we need to do. Has a de-brief been facilitated. Referral to well-being team

# QUESTION



# Investigation tool kit

## **PSII – Patient Safety Incident Investigation**

Led by Patient Safety Incident Investigators who are skilled in systems based investigation

## **PSR – Patient safety review**

A concise systems based investigation coordinated by divisional patient safety managers

## **PSA - Patient safety audit**

A process to assess and evaluate care in a systemic way. Useful for low harm, high volume incidents

## **AAR – After action review**

A discussion of an event that enables the individuals involved to learn for themselves what happened, what went well, what needs improvement, and the lessons learnt

## **Round table**

Multi stake holder discussion to understand context of situation and implication for system



# QUESTION



# The role of the Patient Safety Incident Investigator

## The role requires:

- Completion of Patient Safety Incident Investigations
- Liaising with local specialists/experts
- Adoption of appropriate investigation tools according to the individual incident
- Confidence to identify wider safety improvement recommendations

## The benefits of the role:

- Independent from clinical/operational teams
- Dedicated time to complete Patient Safety Incident Investigations
- Improved quality of investigations
- Positive effect on the patient safety team
- Positive effect on the overall safety culture within the organisation

# QUESTION



## Patient, family/carer engagement

We fulfil Duty of Candour as part of our open engagement with our patients families/carers

The patient/family/carer voice is more clearly heard

We can be flexible with timeframes if required

**Our learning about what works well during the investigation/learning response process**

Enables us to work more effectively to identify what they need so that we can try to meet those needs

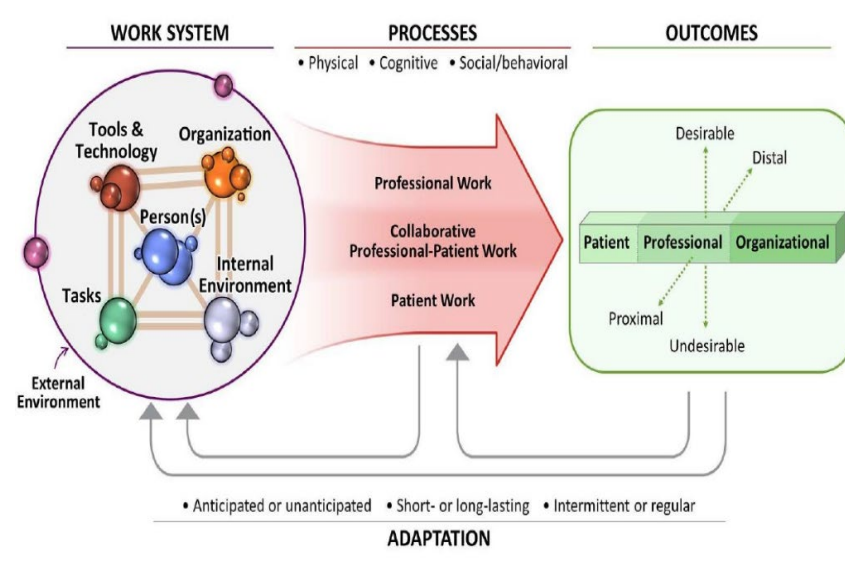
The patient/family/carer approves the report before it is submitted for approval

# QUESTION



# Staff engagement

Obtaining an understanding how the event came about through a human factors, systems-based investigation.



SEIPS 2.0 model taken from Holden, Carayon et al, 2013

- Conversations with those involved instead of asking for statements
- Going to the location of the incident-looking, asking, listening...
- Using appropriate tools to organise and understand the data obtained e.g. the Systems Engineering Initiative for Patient Safety (SEIPS) tool\*
- All staff review and input into the draft report. It is not presented for trust approval until the participants give their approval

\*Holden, R. J., Carayon, P., Gurses, A. P., Hoonakker, P., Hundt, A. S., Ozok, A. A., & Rivera-Rodriguez, A. J. (2013). SEIPS 2.0: a human factors framework for studying and improving the work of healthcare professionals and patients. *Ergonomics*, 56(11), 1669–1686. <https://doi.org/10.1080/00140139.2013.838643>

# QUESTION



# Working with the coroner

- PSIRF does not change the scope of the Inquest
- We assist the Coroner with their enquiry
- Who, when, where and how?
- We proactively seek to provide reassurance about learning and preventing future deaths
- We present investigation findings which support the Coroner to make decisions regarding PFD
- We encourage dialogue with families



# QUESTION



# Top tips!

- Board engagement
  - Identify resource
  - Do not underestimate the importance of communications support
  - Duty of candour requirements can be met within PSIRF
  - Ensure you have sight of other workstreams/engagement projects/pathway reviews in progress within your organisation
  - Remember that PSIRF will be a continuous evolution process
- You can find more resources on the NHS England website:  
<https://www.england.nhs.uk/patient-safety/incident-response-framework/>

**Thank you for listening**



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# Regulation & Assessment: PSIRF and the single assessment framework

Claire Land, Policy Manager, CQC



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- How PSIRF aligns to CQC's strategic ambitions
- Implications for the independent healthcare sector
- How PSIRF fits in to the single assessment framework and the new regulatory approach



Claire Land  
Regulatory Policy Manager (Acute)

June 2023

# Our role and purpose

The Care Quality Commission is the independent regulator of health and adult social care in England.

We make sure health and social care services provide people with safe, effective, compassionate, high-quality care and we encourage care services to improve.



# Our strategy

Our overall aim and focus is on tackling inequalities and driving improvement



# Safety through learning

The importance of culture

Building expertise

Involving everybody

Regulating safety

Consistent oversight and support

“We’ll be looking for cultures that have learning and improvement at their core. In a good safety culture, it accepted that all incidents provide opportunities to learn and improve”

“We’ll expect all services to have stronger safety and learning cultures and that learning and improvement should be the primary response when anyone speaks up”

“We’ll look at how services and systems assure themselves that they have the right knowledge and expertise, and how they are investing in improving safety”

“Learning and improvement must be the primary response to all safety concerns in all types of services and local systems”

“Services that are not open to learning can’t be safe. We’ll use our powers and act quickly where improvement takes too long...where services are unable to identify systemic issues...or fail to learn lessons from widely publicised failures happening across health and care”



# Preparing inspection & assessment teams for PSIRF

The Care Quality Commission's (CQC's) assessment of a provider's leadership and safety considers an organisation's ability to respond effectively to patient safety incidents, including whether change and improvement follow its response to patient safety incidents.

CQC teams will apply the PSIRF and associated [patient safety incident response standards](#) as part of its assessment of the strength of an organisation's systems and processes for preparing for and responding to patient safety incidents.

Where it specifically considers PSIs, CQC's review will consider how these meet the national patient safety incident response standards. CQC will assess, in partnership with the NHS England PSIRF team, the specific training requirements for those undertaking reviews of PSIs.

Fortnightly calls with NHSE PSIRF leads

'Key messages' focusing on what good looks like for a provider transitioning over to PSIRF

Q&A session with NHSE colleagues

Engagement sessions with individual teams

Worming with NHSE and a small group of inspectors to map variations under PSIRF

Wider work on the StL ambitions with regards to building our internal expertise

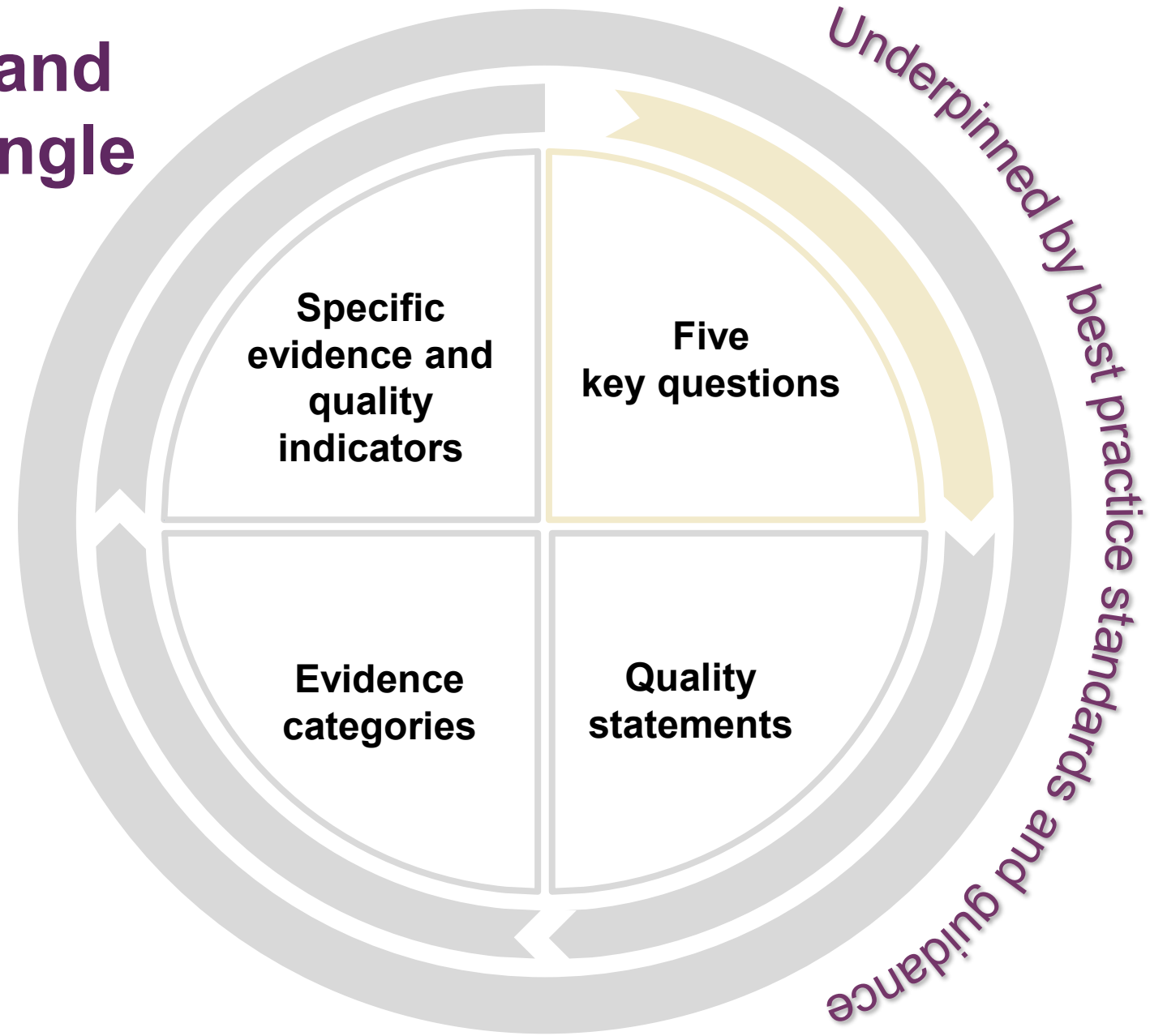
# Proportionality

NHSE has started to address the proportionality challenges, which are particularly pertinent for independent healthcare providers and this will help CQC:

Large independents (Spire, Cygnet, Nuffield)	Smaller independents	Spot purchasing
<p>NHSE are encouraging identification of 'lead commissioner' for PSIRF where there is agreement between relevant commissioners and provider</p>	<p>Key is word is <u>proportionate</u>; there needs to be an agreed approach for how to develop/ agree a patient safety incident response plan and policy <u>(this might be an amendment to existing policies rather than entirely separate piece of work)</u></p>	<p>Likely to be for the commissioner to check that there is an appropriate plan/policy in plan every time a patient is placed within such organisation</p>
<p>NHSE developing guidance principles for what it means to be a 'lead commissioner' (term to be confirmed) for PSIRF:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Some commissioners are concerned that there will be confusion re broader 'lead commissioner' role which includes much broader quality monitoring and contracting activity</li> <li>• Some ICB also want to ensure that the role/responsibility of the 'local' commissioner in oversight of incidents/quality concerns is not lost/replaced by 'lead commissioner' which may be geographically remote</li> </ul>	<p>Need to know that providers can recognise, record, and respond to patient safety incidents (in systems-based way) and use insight to inform continuous improvement</p>	<p>For the purposes of joining and benefiting from PSIRF networks, they could join their local/nearest network/group.</p>
	<p>ICBs may need to think about how to support access to expertise in systems based learning responses</p>	

# Evidence for compliance and how PSIRF fits into the Single Assessment Framework

- **Five key questions** - remaining at the core - aligned with “I” statements, drawn from work by Think Local Act Personal (TLAP), National voices and the Coalition for Collaborative Care on Making it Real.
- Focused on what people expect and need from their care.
- A basis for gathering structured feedback.



## Learning culture

We have a proactive and positive culture of safety based on openness and honesty, in which concerns about safety are listened to, safety events are investigated and reported thoroughly, and lessons are learned to continually identify and embed good practices.

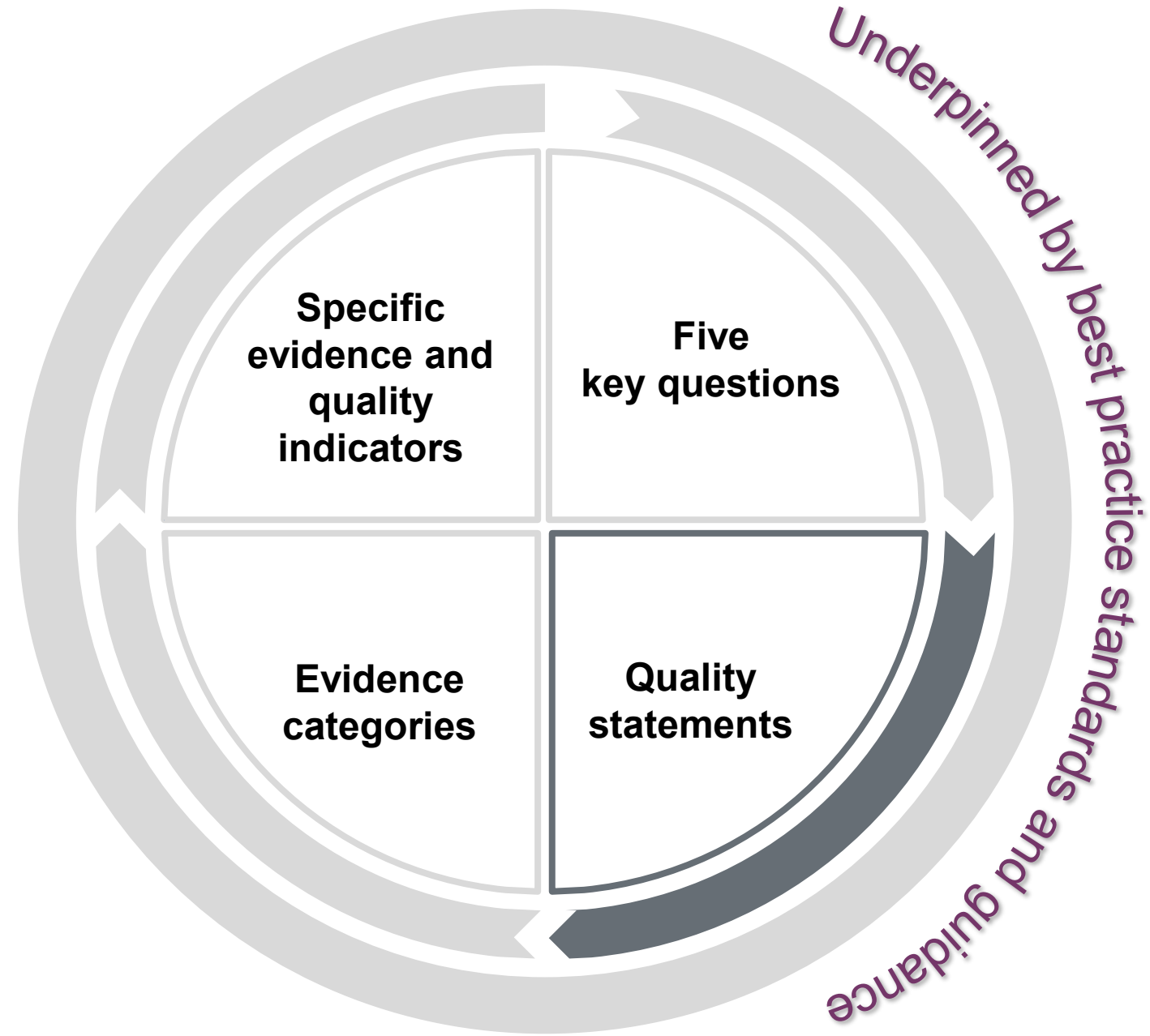
## Related regulations

[Regulation 12: Safe care and treatment](#)

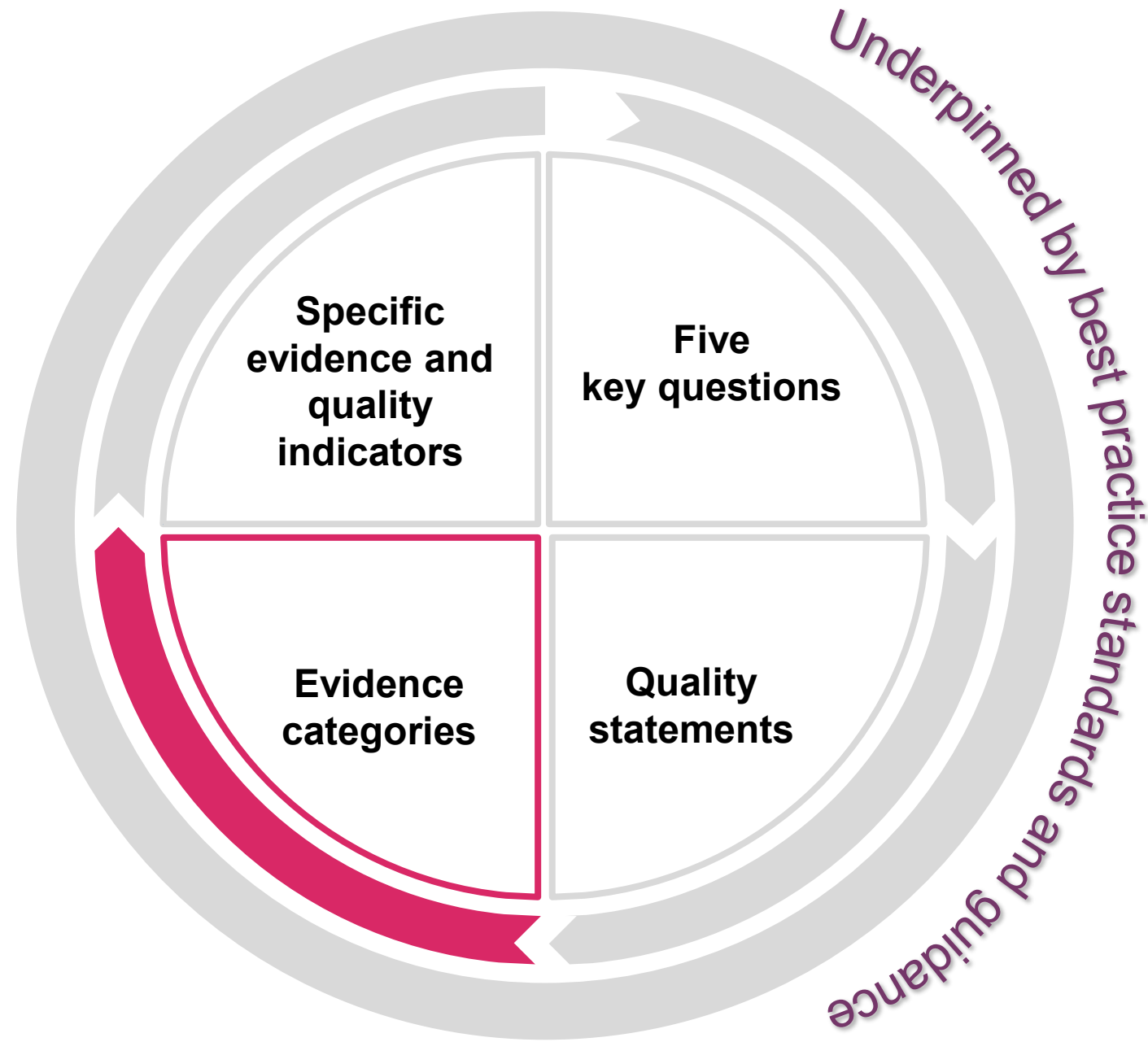
[Regulation 16: Receiving and acting on complaints](#)

[Regulation 17: Good governance](#)

[Regulation 20: Duty of candour](#)



1. People's experience
2. Feedback from staff and leaders'
3. Feedback from partners
4. Observations
5. Processes
6. Outcomes



- **Specific evidence and quality indicators** - Data and information specific to the area of work being considered
- The PSIRF and associated guidance will be (one of) the underpinning best practice standards and guidance for the Learning Culture QS

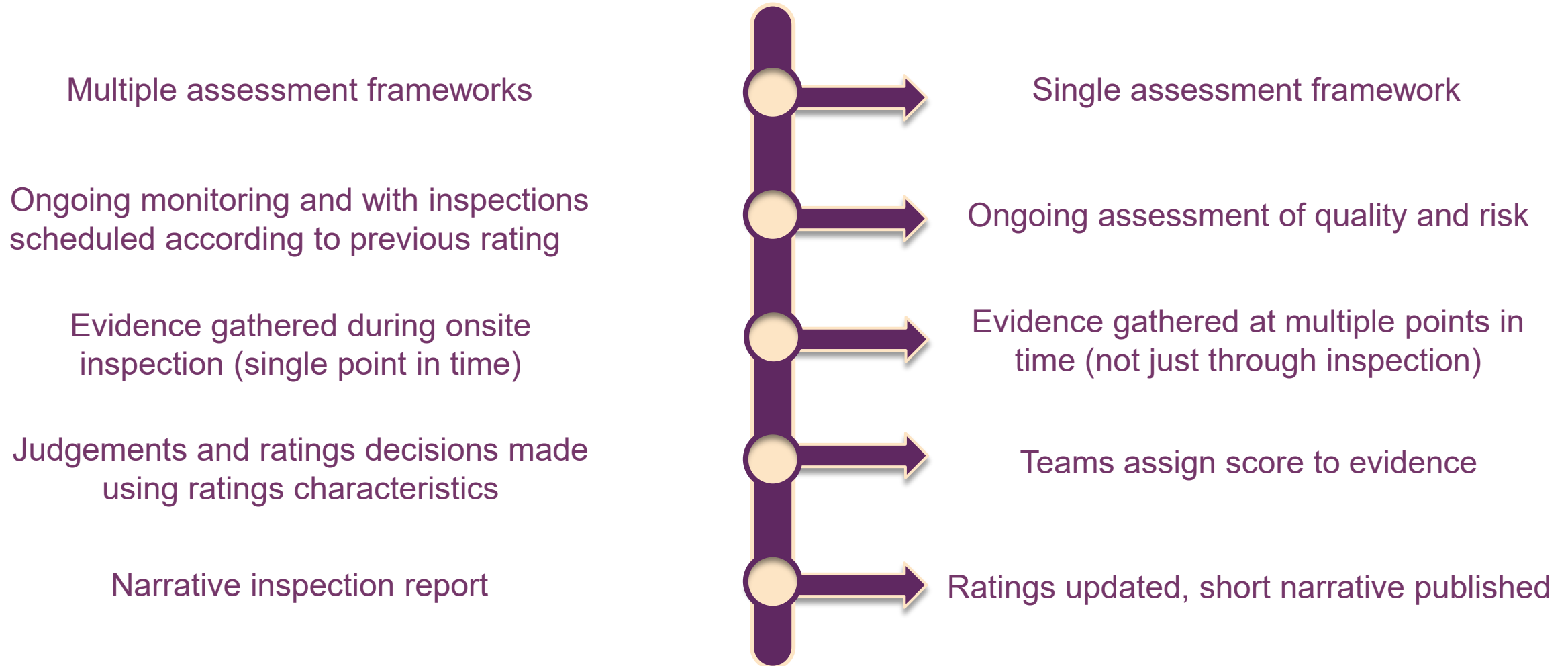


# Some questions for you!

- Where you are providing a mix of NHS and non-NHS funded care, are you likely to apply PSIRF to both?
- What are your key concerns about meeting the PSI standards as you move through transition?

Come and have a chat during the break or [claire.land@cqc.org.uk](mailto:claire.land@cqc.org.uk)

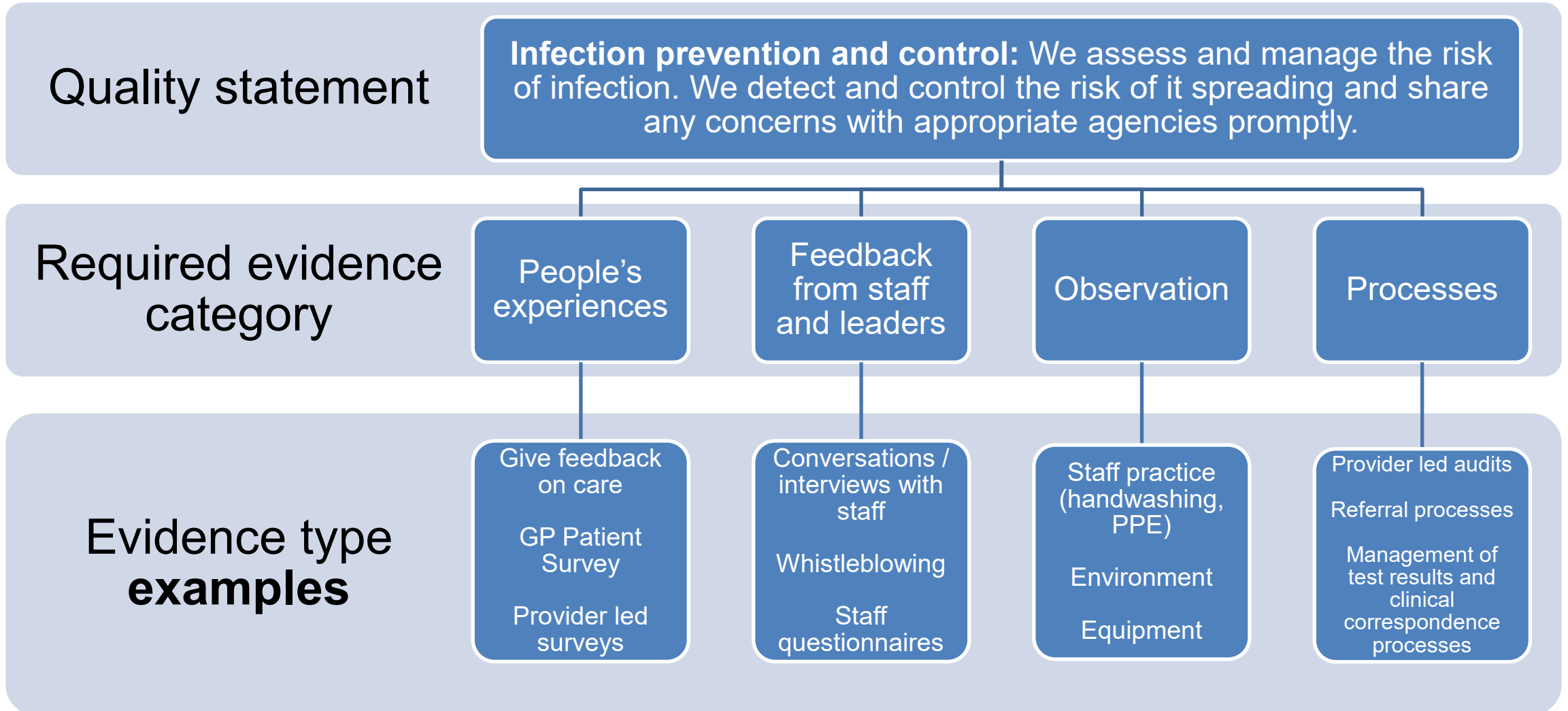
# Changes to our regulatory approach







# How we reach a rating - example



# How we reach a rating - example



Evidence category	Score
People's experiences	1
Feedback from staff and leaders	2
Observation	2
Processes	2
<b>Total score ÷ maximum score</b>	<b>7 ÷ 16 = 44%</b>
<b>Total quality statement score</b>	<b>2</b>

25-38% = 1  
39-62% = 2  
63-87% = 3  
>87% = 4

# How we reach a rating - example



Quality statement	Score
Learning culture	2
Medicines optimisation	2
Safe systems, pathways and transitions	1
Infection prevention and control	2
Safeguarding	1
Involving people to manage risks	2
Safe environments	1
Safe and effective staffing	2
<b>Total score ÷ maximum score</b>	<b>13÷32=41%</b>
<b>Key question rating</b>	<b>Requires improvement</b>

25-38% = Inadequate  
**39-62% = Requires improvement**  
 63-87% = Good  
 >87% = Outstanding



# Implementation of Patient Safety Partners – Key benefits & challenges

Melanie Whitfield, Associate Director of Patient Safety, Clinical Governance and Risk Management, Trust Patient Safety Specialist, Kingston Hospital NHS Foundation Trust

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# Our Journey to Patient Involvement in Patient Safety.

**Melanie Whitfield** - Associate Director of Patient Safety, Clinical Governance and Risk Management. Trust Patient Safety Specialist



Living our values *every day*



# Starting point and expectations



## The NHS Patient Safety Strategy

Safer culture, safer systems, safer patients

July 2019

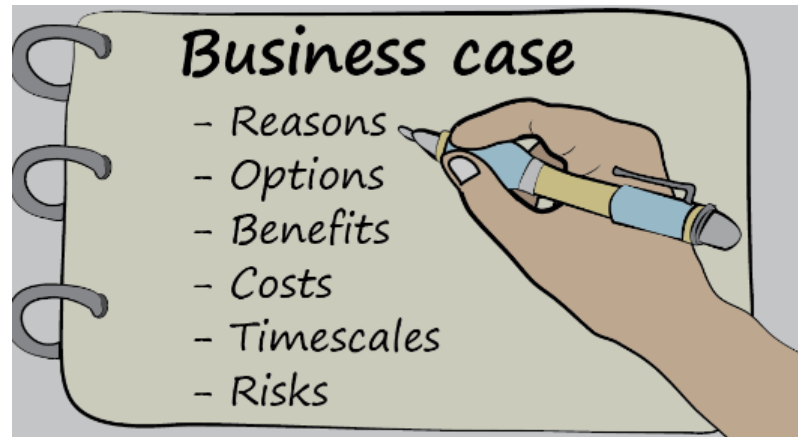


Starting point  
and  
expectations



**Patient safety partners  
bring powerful insight  
and perspectives to  
safety improvement.**

# Recruitment and selection





Recruitment  
and  
selection

- Job description
- Person Specification
- Process

**Risk and Quality  
Assurance  
Patient Safety Partner**

# Recruitment and selection



# Internal Comms



<https://youtu.be/dHG08-kXBpk>

# Essential Roles



**Patient Safety Walk Rounds**



## Aim

- Raise and empower the patient voice
- Critical friend
  - Speak Up
  - Listen up
  - Follow up
- Active contribution
- Robust involvement, engagement and support

## Benefits

- Elevate the patient voice
- Opportunity
- Interaction
- Challenge
- Vision



How's it  
going

## Challenges



"I remind you, this is a private matter. We do not air our dirty laundry in public."



## Challenges

- Early engagement and involvement of Boards and NED's.
- Board clarity and understanding.
- Focus and reassurance on importance of maintained confidentiality

**Remember patient care and, by default, patient safety is both a product and a service.**

**Safety needs to be something we 'do' , not something we have.**

# Challenges

## What supports me to participate

One-to-ones provide a regular opportunity for the PSP and their manager to discuss what the PSP has been involved in, how they are feeling, how they are performing, whether they need help with anything or are interested in getting involved in a particular area.

A copy of this form summarising one-to-one discussions will be shared with the PSP and held by their manager.

Name of PSP..... Date .....

Name of manager.....

What has been going well?

.....

What has not?

.....

What training or support do you need?

.....

Are there any other areas of patient safety work that you'd be interested in getting involved in?

.....

Outputs from conversation (including any agreed actions)

.....

PSP signature.....

Manager's signature.....|



## Key Nuggets

- Co-production
- Demographics
  - Take your time - Right people
- Time Required
  - Transparency of requirement
- Payment
  - Clarity
- Passion and input
- Sharing PSP's
- Elevate the patient voice
- Expert patient
- Funding/payment
- 1:1's (Team and Individual)
- Annual appraisal

## Next Steps

- Grow the profile of our patient safety partners
- Increase visibility of our Patient Safety Partners
- Rolling recruitment programme
- PSP's mentoring new PSP's
- Bi-monthly walkarounds
- Collaboration with SWL PSP groups
- Collaboration with National PSP's
- PSP Newsletter update

Thank you  
Questions?



*Never ever forget, even for  
one moment, how truly  
amazing you are.*



# The role of the NHSE commissioned AHSN Patient Safety Collaboratives

Wendy Stobbs, Head of Programmes,  
Health Innovation Manchester AHSN

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# National Patient Safety Collaboratives Academic Health Science Networks

## The role of the NHSE commissioned Academic Health Science Network Patient Safety Collaboratives

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 @NatPatSIP

[www.england.nhs.uk](http://www.england.nhs.uk)

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*The **AHSN** Network*

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# The AHSN Network



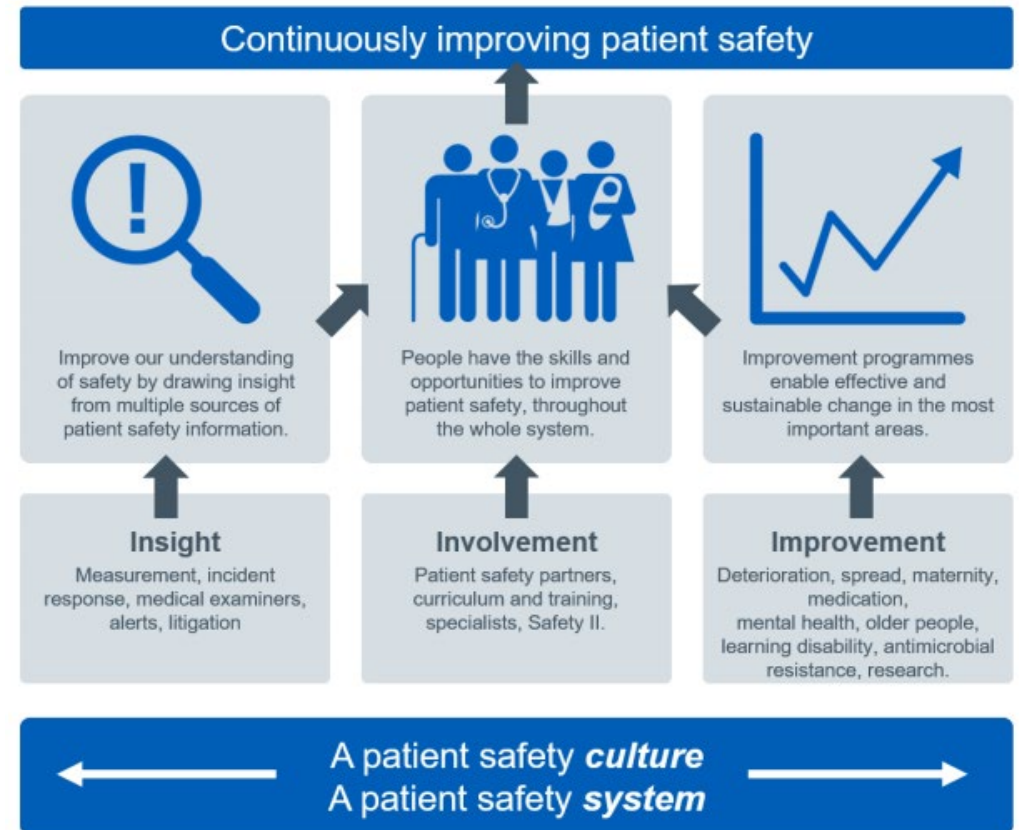
[www.ahsnnetwork.com/patient-safety](http://www.ahsnnetwork.com/patient-safety)



# Patient Safety Strategy

The NHS Patient Safety Strategy provides a structure to support ICS statutory responsibilities:

- **Patient safety culture** – encouraging engaged, visible leadership promoting openness, just culture and continuous improvement, valuing diversity and equality.
- **Patient safety systems** – governance, accountability, supporting whole systemic and systematic improvement, including primary care, intelligent use of digital.
- **Insight** – a whole organisation commitment to identifying risks, reporting incidents, understanding what contributes to safety, identifying how we normally keep our patients safe
- **Involvement** – a focus on people, giving them the skills and support they need, fundamentally involving patients and the public, recognising the need for specific expertise
- **Improvement** – identification and implementation of improvement priorities using quality improvement science to continuously reduce risks to patients.

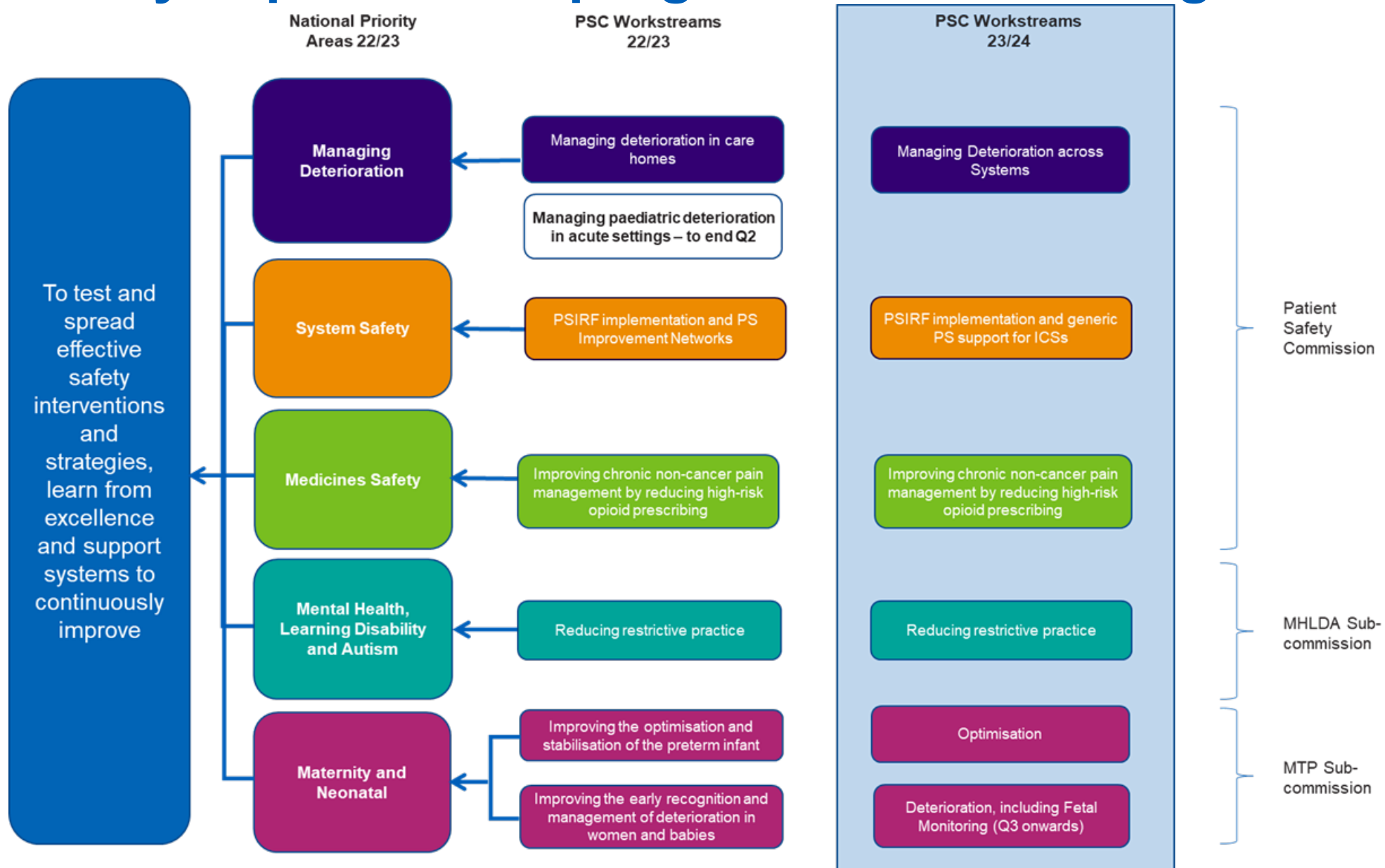


# National Patient Safety Improvement Programmes

- Worldwide, patient safety incidents cause death and disability.
- Patient safety is about maximising the things that go right and minimising the things that go wrong for people receiving healthcare. It is integral to the NHS's definition of quality in healthcare, alongside effectiveness and patient experience.
- Programmes are commissioned by the NHS England patient safety team and delivered by the Academic Health Sciences Network through their Patient Safety Collaboratives.

'The National Patient Safety Improvement Programmes aim to support and encourage a culture of safety, continuous learning and improvement across the health and care system, helping to reduce the risk of harm and make care safer for all.'

# Safety improvement programmes driver diagram



# NHS patient safety improvement impact 2022-23



## Managing Deterioration in Care Homes

Work with **11,621** care homes to support safe care and prevent over **57,000** emergency admissions

## Patient Benefit from Medicines Safety



Saving **347** lives



Prevented **3,337** severe harms



Avoided **19,263** readmissions

## Maternity and Neonatal Safety

Improving the care of premature babies has:

- Saved up to **465** lives <sup>1 2</sup>
- Prevented up to **385** cases of cerebral palsy <sup>3</sup>



## Mental Health Safety



**15%** reduction in traumatising **restraint, seclusion & rapid tranquillisation** restrictive practices recorded in pilot work on 38 inpatient wards.

Working with all Mental Health Trusts in England to prevent over **19,000** restrictive practices each year

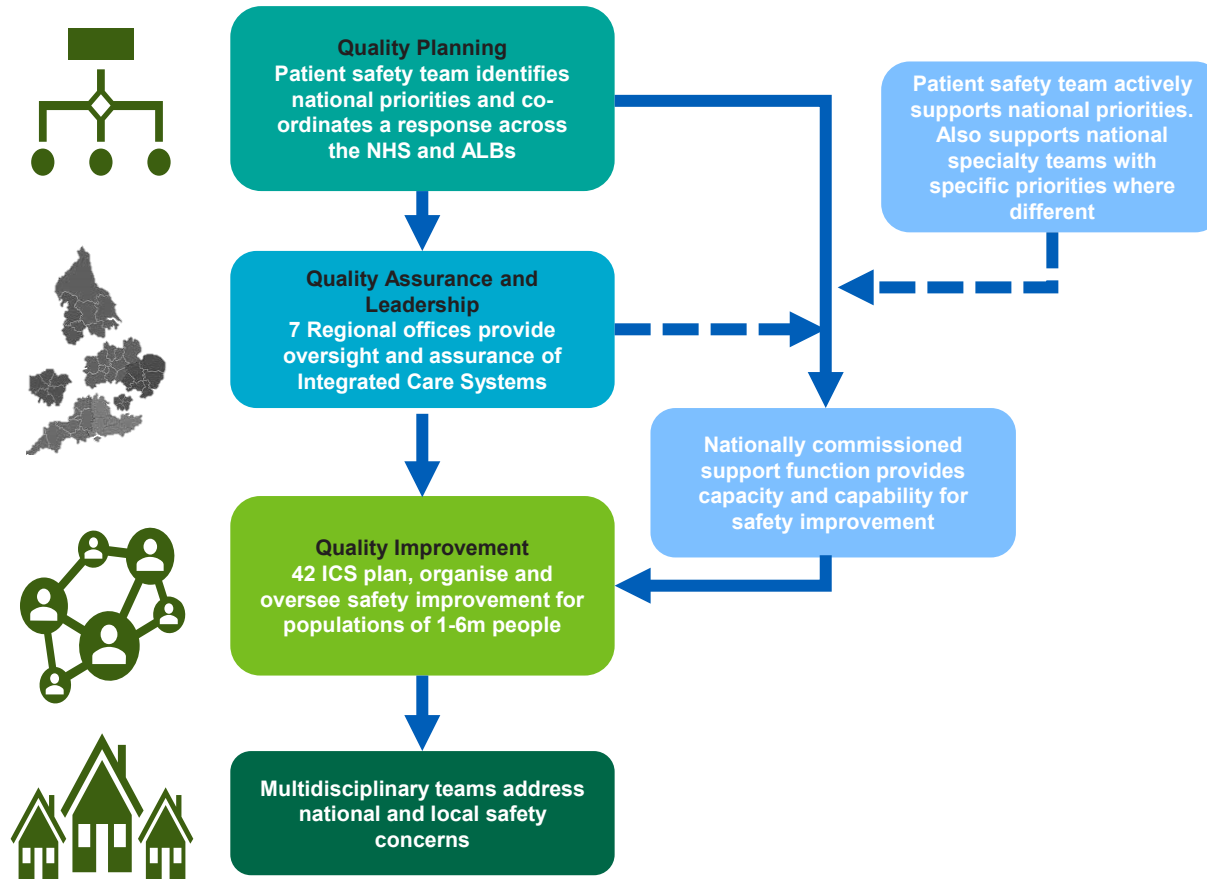
**Safer Tracheostomy Care** Improving tracheostomy care with an average reduction in the total hospital length of stay of **33 days per admission** needing tracheostomy, and an estimated saving of **£1.92m per hospital per year** in England



## System Safety

Supporting the implementation of **Patient Safety Incident Response Framework (PSIRF)** in **all NHS provider organisations** in England.

# Improvement Approach



Co-ordination of national safety priorities across NHS directorates and ALBs

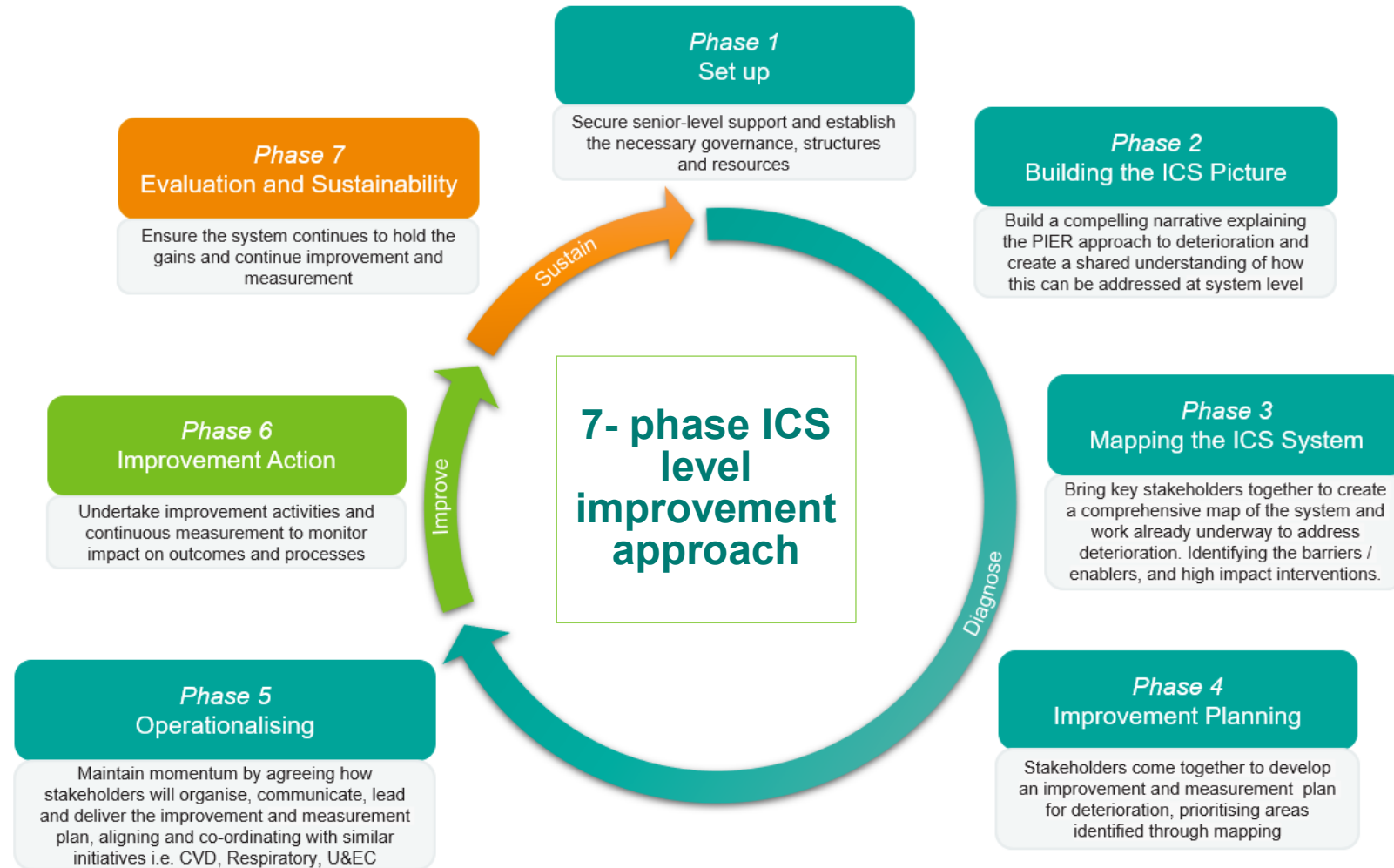
Place-based improvement, driven by ICS system quality groups, supported by the **Patient Safety Collaboratives**

Oversight by regional teams

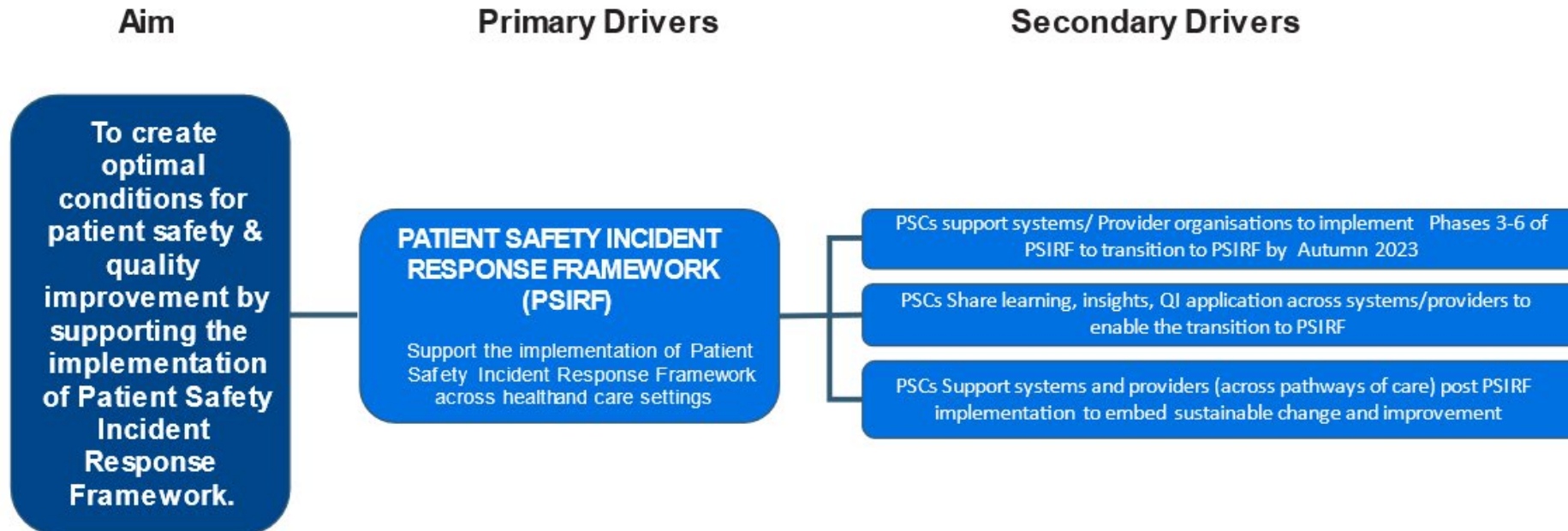
## Collectively, the PSCs support ICSs across England to bring about systematic and sustainable improvement to patient safety by:

- Providing patient safety improvement expertise and coaching
- Identifying and engaging key ICS personnel who can be enabled and supported to lead patient safety improvements
- Identifying and contributing to ICS groups, committees or fora that have a remit for patient safety (for example System Quality Groups, Medicines Safety Committees)
- Supporting any mapping work across the safety priorities to identify good practice, if not already known
- Helping to build the infrastructure for patient safety improvement where it does not already exist
- Fostering a network approach to safety improvement, including key patient safety roles such as Patient Safety Specialists and Medication Safety Officers
- Advising on local measurement for improvement methods
- Advising on resource, system, flow and process mapping for improvement
- Capturing and sharing the benefits, lessons and impact of safety improvement
- Championing patient safety improvement work and the ambitions of the NHS Patient Safety Strategy

# Quality Improvement Approach



# Supporting System Safety



## Outputs/Deliverables

- By Q1 (June 2023) PSCs to identify ICSs and providers who need focused PSIRF support and create a plan for the support that will enable the providers to transition to PSIRF by Autumn 23.
- Between Q3-Q4 (Oct 23 - Mar 24) all PSCs to use an approach (e.g coaching systems) to support systems (i.e., ICSs and providers) with ongoing PSIRF activities to embed changes and improvements.



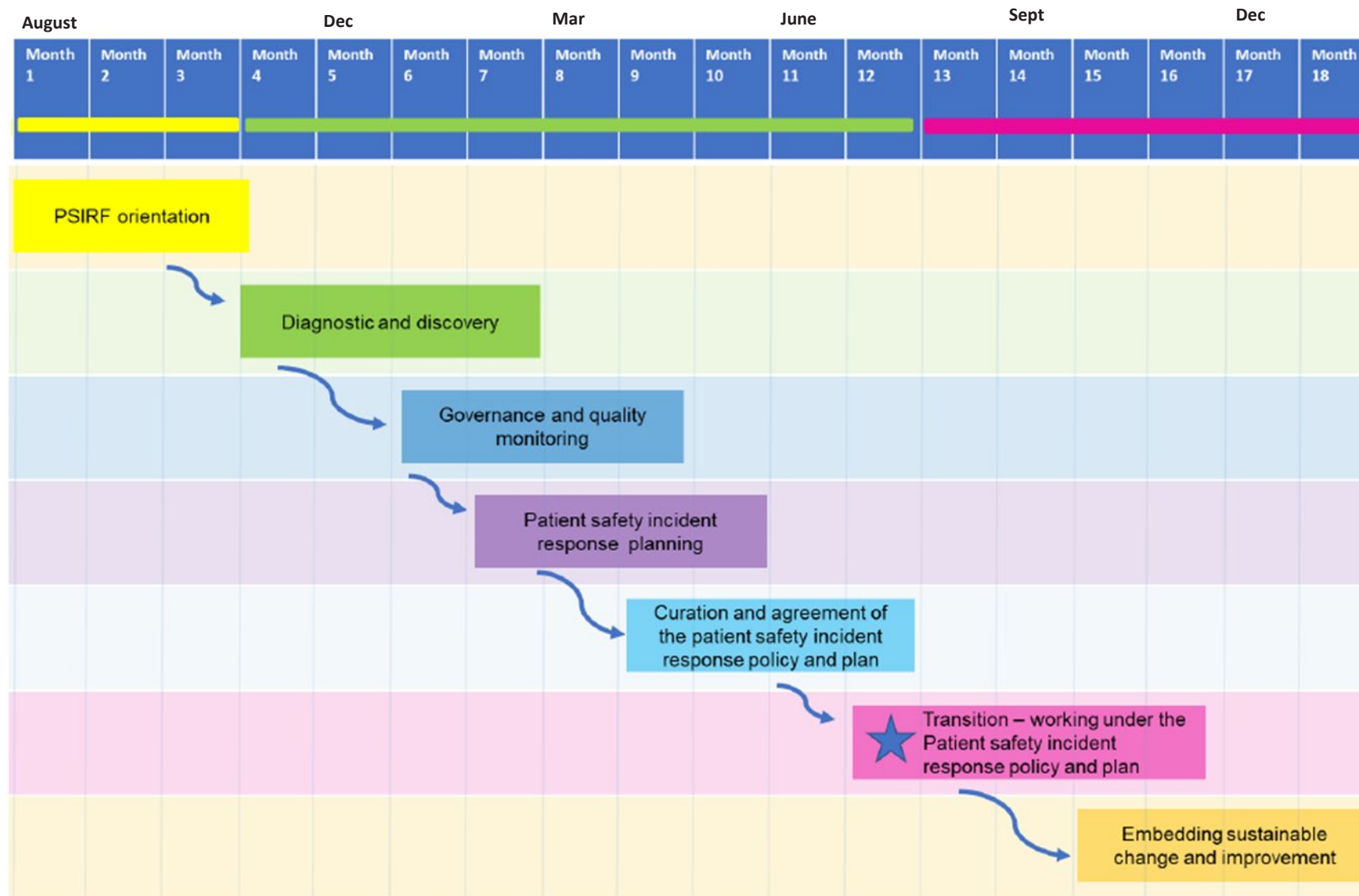
# Support for the PSIRF transition- 22/23

## Ambition

- Patient Safety Collaboratives supported Systems (ICSs) with the implementation and scale up of PSIRF over 2022-23.
- By March 2023 the majority of NHS providers within each ICS needed to have completed Phases 1-2 of PSIRF and commenced activities relating to subsequent phases 3-6.

PHASE	ACTIVITY
Phase 1	PSIRF orientation / getting started
Phase 2	Diagnostic / discovery
Phase 3	Identifying measures of success, Governance and quality monitoring
Phase 4	Patient safety incident response planning
Phase 5	Curation and agreement of the Patient Safety Incident Response Plan (PSIRP)
Phase 6	Transition – working under PSIRF
Phase 7	Sustainable change and improvement

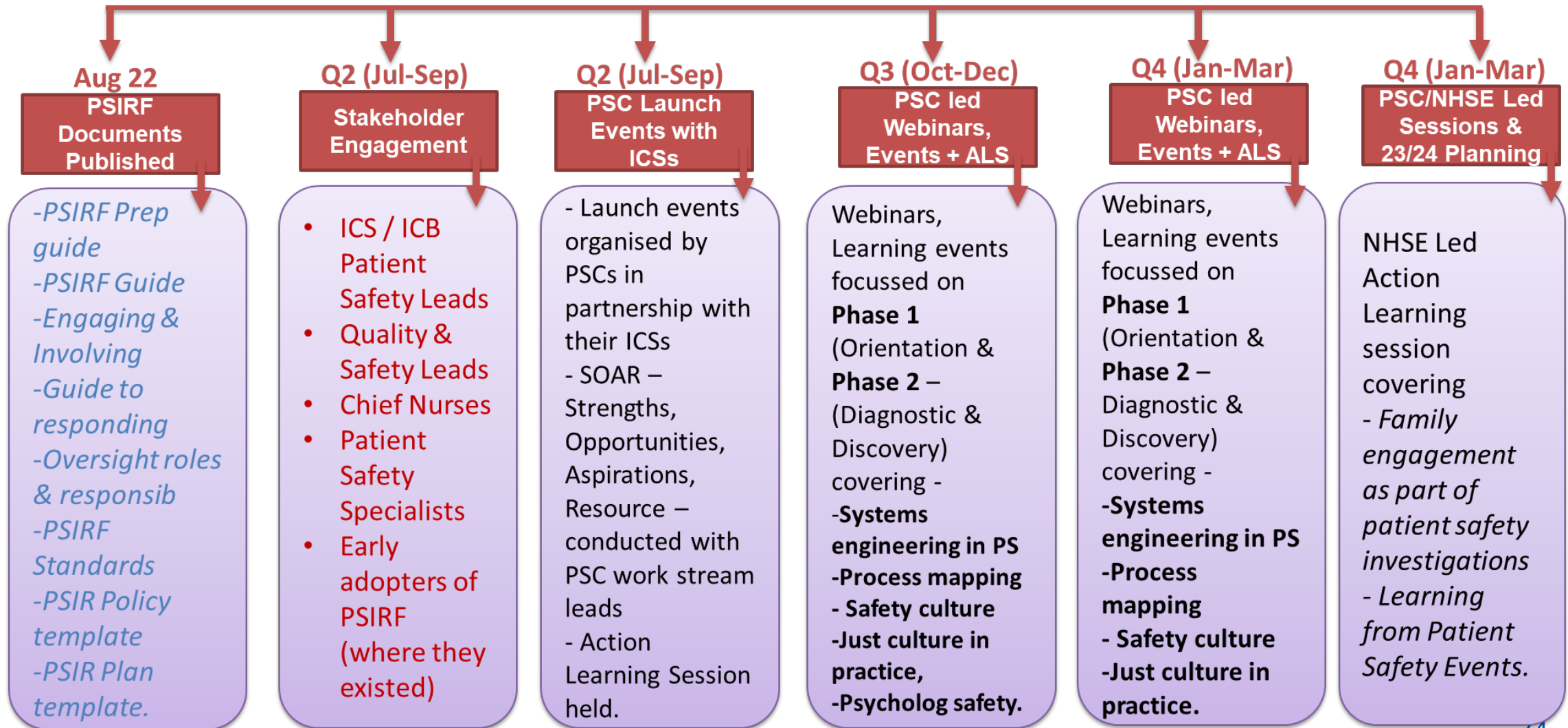
# PSIRF implementation timeline



Source: PSIRF Preparation guide, NHS England. Version 1. August 2022

# PSIRF – progress and input 2022/23

## TIMELINE & PATIENT SAFETY COLLABORATIVE (PSC) LED ACTIVITIES



## UCLPartners Support

**“UCLPartners has been instrumental in supporting and guiding the Mid Essex Integrated Board through all aspects of patient safety, with a particular focus on the PSIRF implementation.**

**UCLPartners expertise and leadership has been pivotal in developing and facilitating the PSIRF workstream across our ICB system and helping us guide providers in their progression whilst wrapped with an exceptional high level of support and providing a plethora of resources. UCLPartners input and support has been priceless and our working relationship is of great value.”**

**- Karen Flitton, Patient Safety Specialist, Mid and South Essex Integrated Care Board**

## Case study



**UCLPartners has been working closely both with our ICBs and Provider partners and with the other London PSCs to provide a comprehensive programme of support to guide and enable the implementation of PSIRF.**

UCLPartners covers a diverse footprint that includes 2 NHS regions, 3 ICBs and 17 Provider NHS Trusts, therefore, in supporting PSIRF implementation, it was imperative that we did this in collaboration. This worked started pre-PSIRF publication with engagement and building relationships with ICB and Regional Patient Safety Specialists to design a programme of work tailored to the needs of those involved. This has led to a series of face to face workshops and online sessions for each of the ICSs in the UCLPartners footprint.

The focus for each of these has been on the relevant PSIRF implementation phase, and included tools and techniques such as stakeholder and process mapping as well as providing time for teams to work together to progress their local implementation. The main learning from these events is that providers value the time to come together outside of the workspace as one of the main challenges has been finding the time and resources to implement PSIRF.

We have also led on the delivery of two Pan-London PSIRF webinars in collaboration with Health Innovation Network and Imperial College Health Partners, one focused on discussing orientation of PSIRF and one on Safety Culture. Both of which have been well received with over 100 attendees from across London and Essex. Our supportive and facilitative role has meant that we are able to be flexible and responsive to the needs and challenges of those we work with. Challenges such as the changing landscape with the ICB formation, changes in PSS and PSIRF leads within provider organisations have reinforced the need for this approach. We now have every ICB and provider trust engaged with the work, with overwhelmingly positive feedback for our workshops. We will work to continue building these relationships to understand local challenges so we can provide more tailored support.

# Case study: North West collaboration

## North West Collaboration

*"The Greater Manchester PSC team have been instrumental by working in collaboration with the NHSE North West Quality & Safeguarding Teams lead. We have been working together for some time to ensure that we collectively support the implementation of PSIRF and the Patient Safety Specialists across the Region. We are making excellent progress and have formed strong relationships; I feel much more confident that we are all working together to have a successful journey in working with the systems to implement PSIRF and other key deliverables. "*

*- Elizabeth Ratcliffe, Deputy Director of Quality, Regional Safeguarding & Investigations Lead (NHS England North West Clinical Directorate)*

## Case study



**Health Innovation Manchester PSC have worked with the Innovation Agency PSC to convene a regional partnership to offer a consolidated PSIRF support offer across the North West region.**

In the immediate period following PSIRF publication, against the backdrop of emerging ICB structures and appointments, the Health Innovation Manchester PSC team have worked as system coordinators, taking a 'helicopter view' and recognising there was an opportunity to create alignment and avoid duplication not just in the GM system but at a North West regional level. The team formed a strong relationship with the Regional Safeguarding & Investigations Lead and responded to concerns that there was a risk of fragmented support offers within the PSIRF space. The GM PSC team proactively initiated a collaborative partnership with colleagues in the Innovation Agency PSC, the NHSE North West Quality and Safeguarding Team and regional improvement organisation AQUA which mobilised quickly to begin to design a single, consolidated PSIRF support offer for NHS trusts across the North West. It is envisaged that combining the skills, expertise, credibility and influence of the 4 partner organisation, PSIRF implementation teams will have access to a comprehensive and consolidated single support offer that is standardised across 3 different ICB footprints.

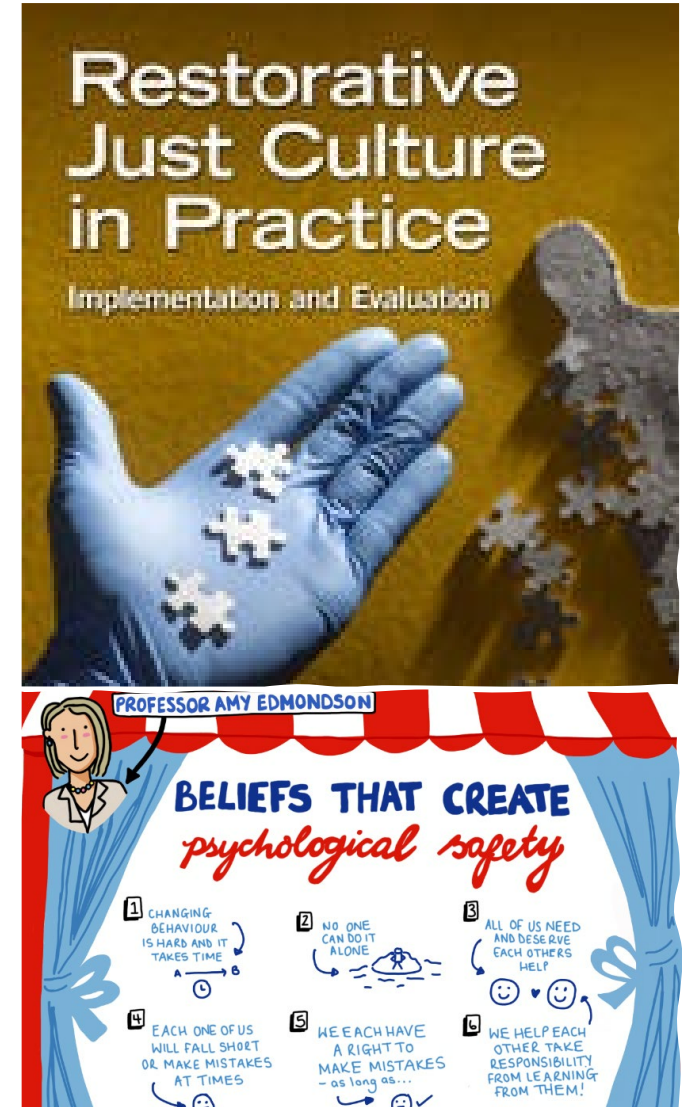
A podcast was produced by the Innovation Agency in collaboration with Health Innovation Manchester and AQUA (Advancing Quality Alliance) at a PSIRF education and learning event for ICSs and providers in December 2022.

[Listen to the podcast](#)

# System Safety National Action Learning Sessions (ALS)

## Topics covered at the ALS sessions focusing on PSIRF

- Safety Culture and PSIRF
  - Leadership development in healthcare
  - Just culture in practice
  - Psychological safety
  - Learning from best practice
  - Continuous learning and improvement [SWARM huddles, After Action Reviews (AARs)]
  - Team-work and Communication
  - Inclusivity, diversity to narrow health inequalities
  - Measurement for improvement
- Learning from Patient Safety Events (LFPSE)
- Engagement on Family engagement while managing Patient Safety Incidents
- SOAR (Strengths, Opportunities, Aspirations, Resources) exercise



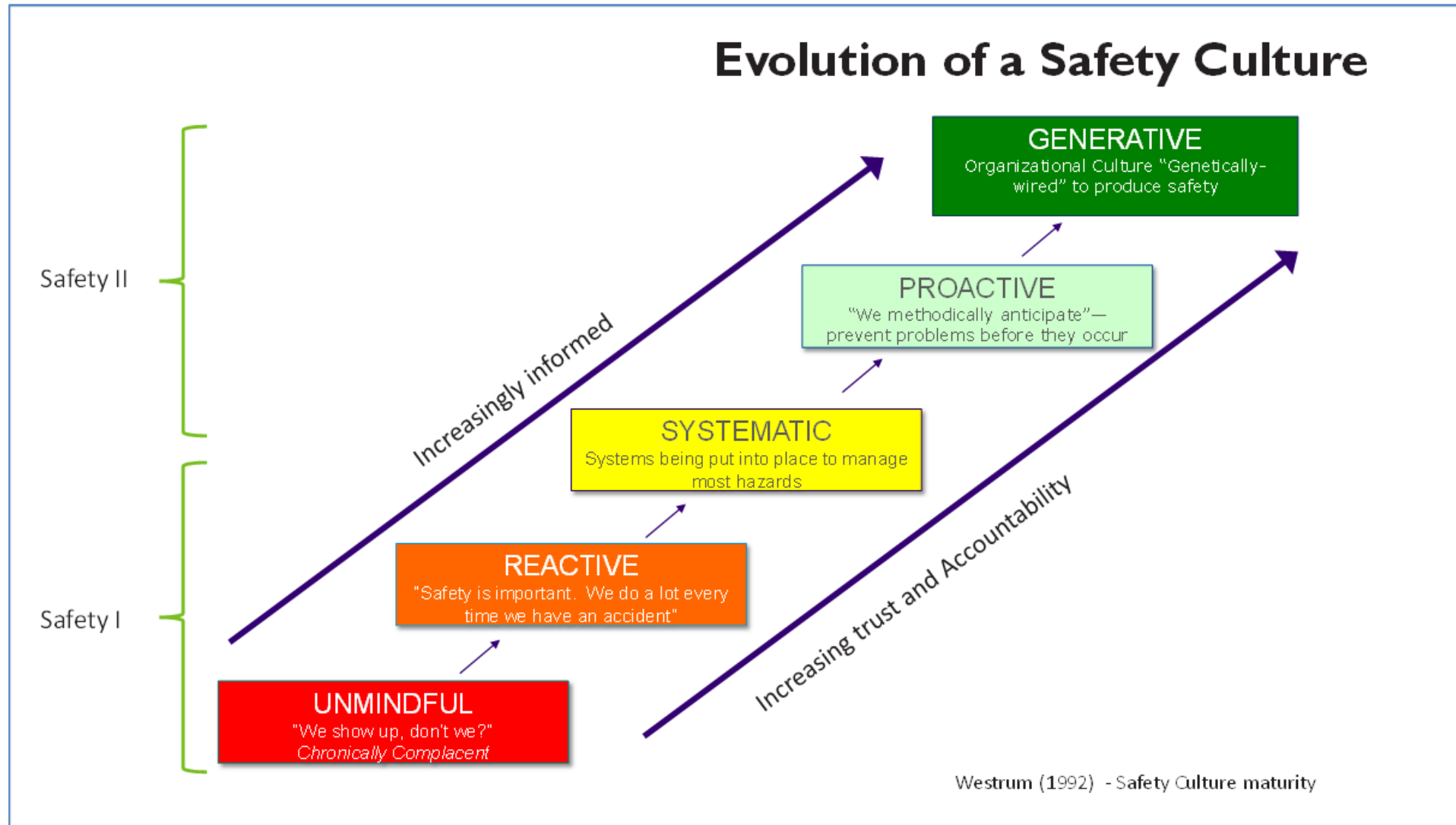
# How to create psychological safety in a crisis?’

PSIRF webinar outputs from the Patient Safety Collaborative led events to support the implementation of PSIRF regionally.



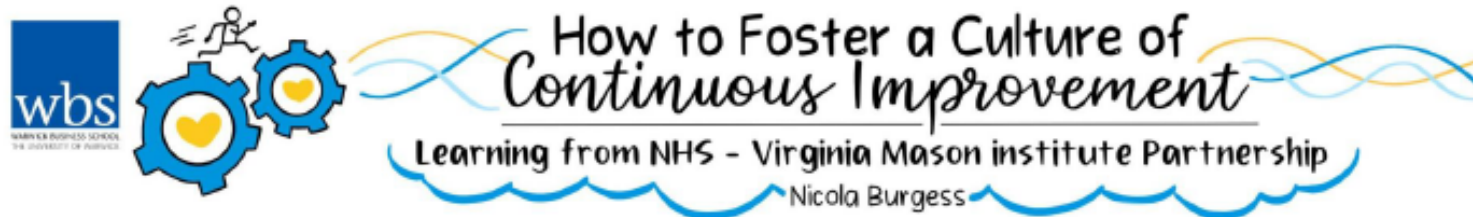
Teaming: A Edmondson

# Evolution of a safety culture





# How to foster a culture of continuous improvement



**1. BUILD CULTURAL READINESS** as foundation for better QI outcomes

SHARED VALUES

ORGANISATIONS THAT INVESTED IN CULTURAL READINESS BEFORE QI

GOT BETTER OUTCOMES FROM QI

PRIOR "CULTURAL WORK" ENABLED QI

**2. EMBED QI ROUTINES AND PRACTICES** into everyday practice

BUILD QI CAPABILITY ACROSS THE ORGANISATION

MAKE QI A PART OF EVERYONE'S WORK, EVERYDAY

LEARNING IN REAL SITUATIONS

REAL TIME

**3. HAVE LEADERS SHOW THE WAY** and light the path for others

LEADERS GO FIRST

LEADERS AS PROBLEM FRAMERS, NOT PROBLEM SOLVERS

MODEL THE IMPORTANCE OF QI

LEADERSHIP BEHAVIOUR IS A SYSTEM ISSUE

ENABLES PEOPLE TO LEAD IMPROVEMENT FROM THE POINT OF CARE

MOVE AWAY FROM "COMMAND AND CONTROL" TO QI AT EVERY LEVEL OF THE SYSTEM

**4. RELATIONSHIPS** aren't a priority, THEY'RE A PREREQUISITE

SYSTEMATIC QI METHODS WORK BEST where...

SOCIAL CONNECTEDNESS

TECHNICAL CAPABILITY

BUILD IMPROVEMENT EFFORTS

TRUSTING RELATIONSHIPS

SHARED VALUES

**5. HOLD EACH OTHER TO ACCOUNT FOR BEHAVIOURS,** not just outcomes

AGENDA

REFLECTIONS & LEARNINGS

Set out and role model the behaviours expected for QI

EMBED SPACE FOR REFLECTION and LEARNING IN FORMAL MEETING ROUTINES

**6. THE RULE OF THE GOLDEN THREAD:** not all improvement matters in the same way

When our improvement priorities and objectives are...

The GOLDEN THREAD

...closely aligned to the highest organisational priorities and objectives

MAKES IT EASIER TO DEMONSTRATE QI OUTCOMES IN WAYS THAT MATTER

LEADING CHANGE ACROSS HEALTHCARE SYSTEM: HOW TO BUILD IMPROVEMENT CAPABILITY AND FOSTER A CULTURE OF CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT

SKETCHNOTE BY: TANMAY VORA

#leadingQI

Source: Six key lessons from the NHS and Virginia Mason Institute Partnership. Warwick Business School. Available from: <https://www.wbs.ac.uk/news/six-key-lessons-from-the-nhs-and-the-virginia-mason-institute-partnership/> 2022.



## Independent Provider Support from PSCs

Generally via your ICB lead- so please contact them in relation to

- Your PSIRPlans sign offs

**PSCs can support with**

- Developed PSIRF resources (webinars, documents etc) and insight, but most are on FuturesNHS

# More information

- Find your local Patient Safety Collaborative:  
[www.ahsnnetwork.com/priorities/patient-safety/](http://www.ahsnnetwork.com/priorities/patient-safety/)
- Follow us: [@AHSNNetwork](https://twitter.com/AHSNNetwork)
- Access the FuturesNHS resources
  - Anyone can join the platform – it's easier if you have an NHS email address, but if you don't, emailing [NHSps-manager@future.nhs.uk](mailto:NHSps-manager@future.nhs.uk) should reach the team to give access.

# Thank you, any questions?

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 [@ptsafetyNHS](https://twitter.com/ptsafetyNHS)

[www.england.nhs.uk/patient-safety](http://www.england.nhs.uk/patient-safety)

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# Staff member feedback: Experience and learnings from being involved in an incident

Emma Watson, PSIRF  
Implementation Lead, Circle Health  
Group

Event supported by





# IHPN Conference slides - 28 June 2023

Emma Watson - PSIRF Implementation Lead

[circlehealthgroup.co.uk](https://circlehealthgroup.co.uk)



# Welcome and introduction



# Setting the scene

## Service description



Medium sized Private Hospital



Elective orthopaedic surgery



Surgical team made up of Experienced Practitioners

## My role



Quality and Risk Manager - 2 years in post



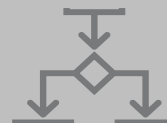
Routinely attended Crash calls



Co-ordination of staff at scene



Scribe for incident



Operational support during incident



# The Incident

## Incident description



Patient admitted for elective orthopaedic surgery, TKR.



No notable co-morbidities, ASA 2



Plan for Spinal anaesthesia



Patient surgery commenced under spinal anaesthesia



30 minutes into surgery, patient snored and became unresponsive, cardiac monitoring showed PEA



Full resus commenced and continued for 50 minutes



Patient death pronounced

## My role



Attended crash call.



With a view to commencing the scribe



Contacted ambulance service



Met ambulance - escort to theatre suite



Operational support during



Met family



Consoled family

# The Investigation

## Description



Initial engagement with Family



Case review/Timeline



Staff debrief



Report writing



Approval process

## My role



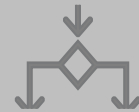
Initial Investigator



Family Liaison



Conducted investigation (RCA)



When coronial process became apparent referred for external (to site) investigation



Remained a co-author



Gathered statements for Coronial process

# The follow up

## Description



Submitted for inquest



Staff Liaison around Coroners statements



Statements collected for Coroner



Prepare to be Coroner's witness

## My role



Attempted to engage with Family



To share RCA Report



Family dis-engaged

# The Coroners court

## Coronial process



2 days in Court



Coroners witness



Family Present



Supported by Barrister



Supported by ED



# Lessons Learned - too many hats



# Resilience



RESILIENCY IS:  
 MAINTAINING A  
 BALANCE BETWEEN  
 STRATEGIC ACTION  
 AND REST.

She stood in the storm and when  
 the wind did not blow her way,  
 she adjusted her sails.

ELIZABETH EDWARDS

*Your Tango*

**"BEING RESILIENT IS  
 SO MUCH EASIER  
 WHEN YOU'RE  
 SURROUNDED BY  
 THE RIGHT PEOPLE."**

MAXIME LAGACÉ

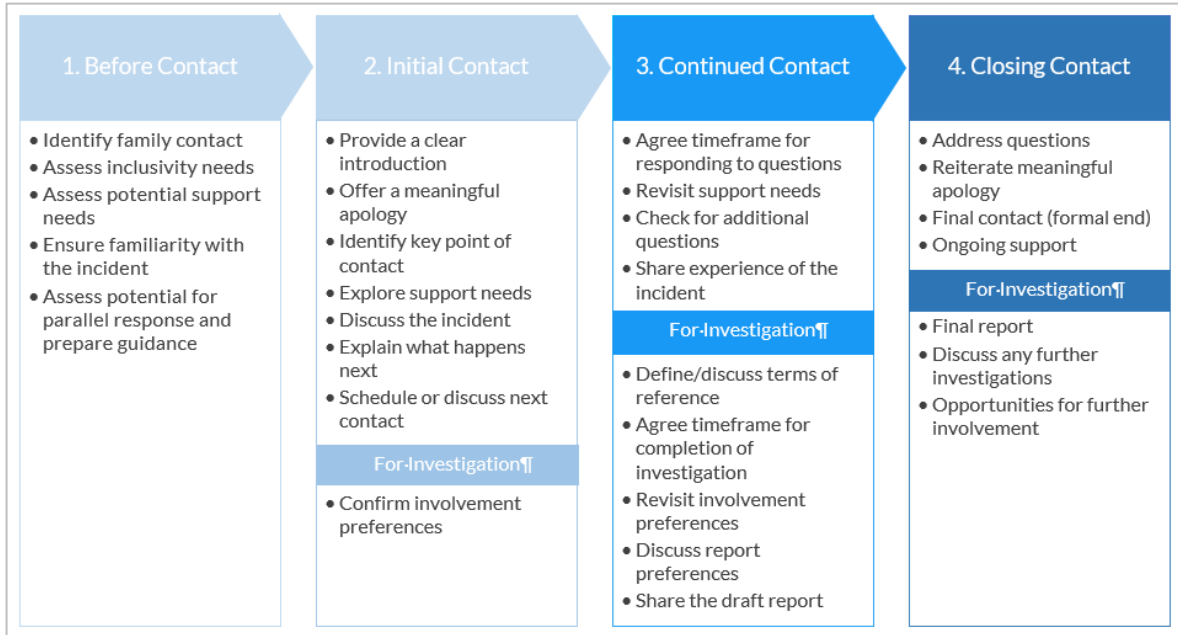
thefitthelementlife.com

"I can be changed by what  
 happens to me. But I refuse to  
 be reduced by it."

Maya Angelou

# The PSIRF Way forward

## Patients



## Staff

Figure 1. Foundations for effective and compassionate engagement



### Leadership

Managers and leaders should demonstrate their commitment to compassionate engagement and involvement in their words and actions.



### Training and competencies

PSIRF sets specific expectations regarding training required for engaging and involving those affected by patient safety incidents.



### Support systems

Families and staff may need to be signposted to support at any point during engagement or involvement in a learning response.



### Ensuring inclusivity

Engagement and involvement must take into account individual needs. Organisations should consider this in the design and delivery of their service.



### Information resources

Those affected by a patient safety incident must have clear information about the purpose of a learning response, and what to expect from the process.



### Processes for seeking and acting on feedback

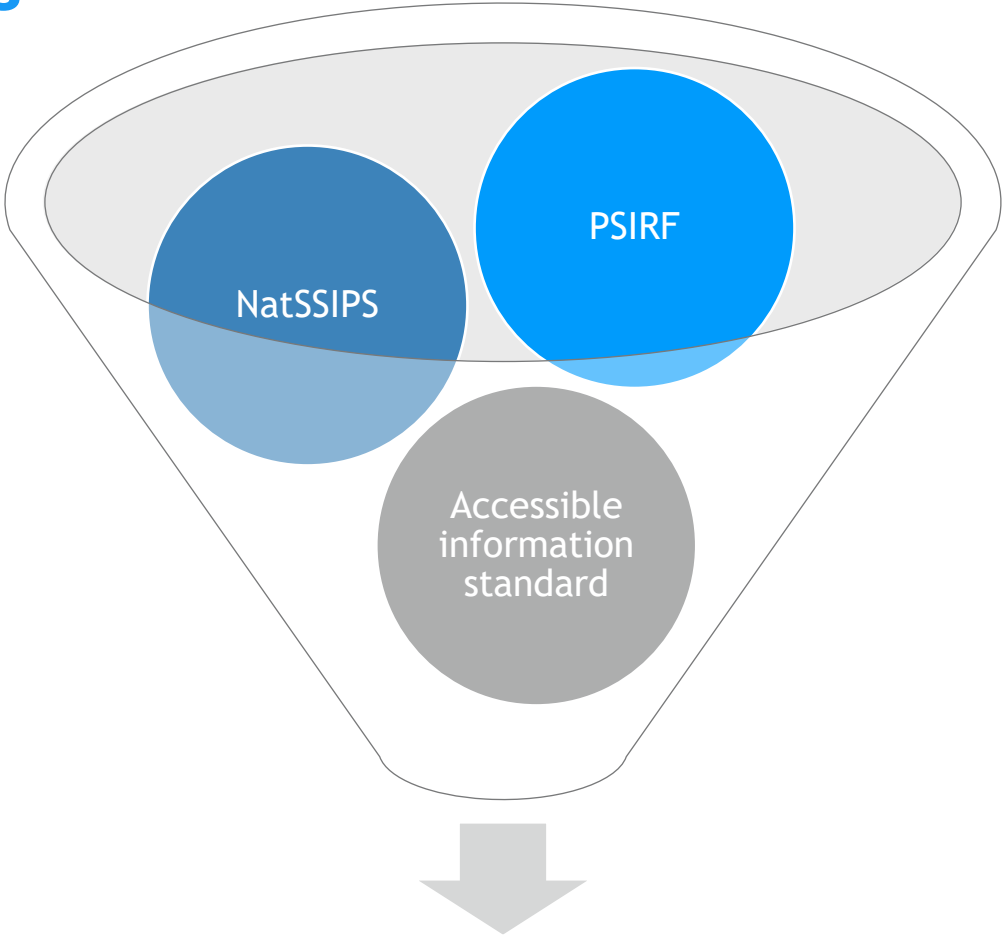
Organisations must assess the progression and outcome of engaging with those affected by a patient safety incident and their involvement in a learning response.



### Processes for managing dissatisfaction

When the expectations of those affected are not met, families and staff must be given meaningful, truthful and clear explanations as to why this was not possible.

# Associated projects



Engaging and involving  
(patients and staff)



# Conclusion





Thank you

[circlehealthgroup.co.uk](https://circlehealthgroup.co.uk)





# How can we improve collaboration and learnings from each other?

Dawn Hodgkins, IHPN (chair)  
Dr Katie Grant, The Medical Protection Society  
Deborah Widdowson, NHS England  
Wendy Stobbs, Health Innovation Manchester  
Emma Watson, Circle Health Group  
Hannah Taylor, Bevan Brittan LLP

Event supported by





Independent Healthcare  
Providers Network

# Closing remarks

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