



Improvement Academy

Medicines Safety - Reducing Errors in Community Pharmacy

The Improvement Academy is working with 9 enthusiastic pharmacy teams to reduce dispensing errors. This fully supported 20 week programme equips pharmacy teams with improvement skills allowing them to minimise errors and ultimately improve patient safety. Early signs indicate that this work is highly effective and work is now underway to develop a new programme which will support GPs to reduce prescribing errors. Further information is available [here](#) and you can register your interest for future programmes [here](#). If you wish to discuss this in more detail please contact: maureen.mcgeorge@bthft.nhs.uk.



pharmacy TAPS going strong



Nicola Bona with one of the clocks

Re-positioning Clock for Pressure Ulcers

Nicola Bona and Bev Brown both sisters on Ward J28 in Chancellor Wing, St James's University Hospital, Leeds have designed their own "re-positioning clock" for patients with pressure ulcers. This is a simple method of identifying when patients need repositioning, and is immediately visible to nursing staff at the patient's bed. This is proving to be very popular with staff on other acute and base wards.

As part of the support offered by the [Improvement Academy](#), baseline data has been collected from three wards and this is currently being tested and measured on one ward to see if the use of these clocks has an impact on the reliability of turning patients.

Understanding Frailty as a Long Term Condition

A commonly heard clinical expression is "He/she is very frail". It provides a summary statement of an older person that implies concerns over vulnerability and prognosis. This is how healthcare professionals have conventionally considered frailty—as a descriptive label: 'the frail elderly'. In 'Living with Frailty: A Guide for Primary Care', a supplement published in the British Journal of Primary Care Nursing, frailty is reframed as an abnormal health state, like a long-term condition. Copies of this supplement can be obtained by contacting [Sarah De-Biase](#), Improvement Programme Manager for the [Healthy Ageing Collaborative](#)



Feedback from the Successful Falls Summit

The Improvement Academy hosted the 1st North of England Falls Summit with the North East and North Cumbria, North West Coast and Greater Manchester AHSNs last month. Over 220 frontline staff and managers attended the event which was also an opportunity to share information about the work of the [patient safety collaboratives](#). One of the Principal Research Fellows said "it was a really interesting event with different perspectives from the NHS, public health, community and research too." Copies of the speaker presentations can be found [here](#).

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