

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

BETWEEN

The Royal College of Anaesthetists

and

Healthcare Inspectorate Wales

1. SUBJECT OF MOU

1.1 Information sharing framework between the Royal College of Anaesthetists (RCoA) and Healthcare Inspectorate Wales (HIW).

2. PARTIES

2.1 The Parties to this Memorandum of Understanding ("MoU") are:

(A) The Royal College of Anaesthetists

(B) Healthcare Inspectorate Wales

3. BACKGROUND TO THE MoU

3.1 The RCoA is the professional body responsible for the specialty throughout the UK, and it ensures the quality of patient care through the maintenance of standards in anaesthesia, critical care and pain medicine. The RCoA runs the Anaesthesia Clinical Services Accreditation (ACSA), which is a voluntary scheme for NHS and independent sector organisations that offers quality improvement through peer review. The Invited Review programme is an advisory service offered to NHS and independent sector organisations within the UK who feel they would benefit from expert and independent advice to support locally implemented solutions to improve the anaesthetic services they offer.

3.2 HIW is the independent inspectorate and regulator of healthcare in Wales ensuring the maintenance of an assurance system for healthcare, which promotes safety and high quality clinical standards. The surgical inspection framework enables HIW to inspect anaesthetic departments within Wales.

3.3 The Royal College of Anaesthetists and HIW have agreed to exchange relevant information in order to support the provision of high quality anaesthetic services for the benefit of patients.

4. PURPOSE OF THE MoU

4.1 The purpose of the MoU is to define the arrangements under which The RCoA and HIW will exchange information.

4.2 It will be understood that Parties entering into the MoU intend to honour all their obligations.

5. ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION

- 5.1 As and when appropriate, HIW will share relevant data and information from any inspection and review work that has touched on theatre settings or other settings where anaesthesia is administered, such as obstetrics, emergency, MRI and ECT.
- 5.2 HIW will provide a list of surgical settings in Wales. The RCoA will provide information on the stage the anaesthetic department is at for implementing the ACSA standards of care, in line with the agreed wording in the HIW Surgical Inspection Framework, Pre-Inspection Self-Assessment:
- ACSA accreditation achieved and continued engagement within the scheme.
 - ACSA visit undertaken – ACSA accreditation not achieved yet.
 - Formal ACSA implementation commenced (and contact with RCoA made). No ACSA visit yet.
 - No formal ACSA improvement plan implemented.
- 5.3 The RCoA on a quarterly basis will also inform HIW of any invited review that has taken place or is due to take place within the hospitals.
- 5.4 For ACSA and the Invited Reviews, the RCoA cannot provide copies of the reports as they remain the property of the health board.
- 5.5 RCoA and HIW will continue to ensure that the inspection domains of the HIW Surgical Inspection map to the ACSA standards.
- 5.6 All arrangements for the exchange of information will comply with the General Data Protection Regulation.

6. REVIEW OF THE MOU

- 6.1 This MoU shall take effect from 21st January 2019 and will be reviewed formally every 3 years, or sooner as agreed by both parties.

Signed for and on behalf of the parties to this MoU.

Signed for and on behalf of Healthcare Inspectorate Wales

Dr Kate Chamberlain

Chief Executive

Date 18 January 2019



Signed for and on behalf of Royal College of Anaesthetists

Sharon Drake

Deputy CEO, Director of Clinical Quality & Research

Date 14 January 2019

