

Quality and Safety Committee

Key summary points from the Quality and Safety meeting held on 15th February 2017:

- 1.0 The Committee visited AMU at RSH and were heartened by the Leadership shown by an empowered Matron in creating a professional training and support role. This aims to improve staff recruitment and, in particular, retention. We also noted the requirement for increased Senior Clinical decision makers to improve discharge rates. This should be focused on creating new models of care with Advance Clinical Practitioners. The Trust must be careful to avoid false economies of not investing in roles that will ultimately save costs.
- 2.0 The key board risk of 'being assured that there is sufficient system support for Winter Planning (Board Assurance Risk 1134) was examined. The Committee recognised that there is much that can be done internally to address elements, it wished to see clear evidence of wider, coherent, system planning.
- 3.0 The Committee received a presentation regarding the Midwife Led Units. Recent decisions to close units temporarily were scrutinised. The Committee were assured that decisions had been made in a safe manner. We recognised that in a Rural County Midwifery resource must be used effectively. The Committee noted the significant reduction in births in Midwife Led Units, Work is required to re-design the service and improve the MLU's to make them attractive for women with low risk pregnancies. The Committee heard that decisions as to whether a woman requires a Consultant Led delivery may be appropriately made later in their pregnancy than at booking. The Committee supported the view that the Service should be staffed to meet the needs of the Women not the buildings.

David Lee
February 2017

Quality & Safety Committee

Key Summary points from the Quality & Safety Committee Meeting held on 23rd March 2017

- 1.0 The Quality & Safety Committee visited the Princess Royal Hospital (PRH) Site Safety Meeting. This was focused on an overview of the PRH bed situation on the day. What would best be a Multi-Disciplinary Meeting was, in fact, a Nurse Meeting. The Committee heard that there were problems in achieving a meaningful 'on the day' engagement with Medical Staff. This is seen as a significant barrier to achieving timely discharges. The Committee feel that future engagement is mandatory for Doctors but also that empowering Nurses to undertake key discharge tasks and developing extend practice Nursing roles is a key.
- 2.0 When considering the Board Assurance Framework (BAF), the Quality & Safety Committee noted that many of the risks were system risks and, whilst every organisation needs to consider risks and their mitigation, feels that the risks should also be reflected at STP Level.
- 3.0 The Quality & Safety Committee had further presentations and discussions with the Women's & Children's Care Group as part of its ongoing assurance journey. There is considerable evidence of progress. Recognising further scrutiny from the National media, the Committee members will visit Midwife Led Unit's (MLU's) and the Consultant Led Unit to offer support to staff.

David Lee
Chairman, Quality & Safety Committee
March 2017