

**Abstract title:**

Enhancing COPD care across Sunderland Commissioning Consortia (SCC) through Joint Working

**Abstract authors:**

SCC: Rutherford R, Rutherford J

GSK: Walton A, Rigby S

**Affiliation of first author:**

Dr Rob Rutherford is the Respiratory lead for SCC.

**Brief outline of context:**

Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) imposes a significant burden on the NHS accounting for one in eight emergency admissions to hospital<sup>1,2</sup>.

**Brief outline of problem:**

In 2010/11, there were 1234 non-elective COPD-related admissions in Sunderland with an average length of stay of 8.1 days; 26.5% were re-admitted within 28 days<sup>3</sup>.

**Assessment of problem and analysis of its causes:**

In addition to increasing patient benefits there was a need to improve productivity and reduce inappropriate spend due to lack of consistency in management approach<sup>7</sup>.

**Strategy for change:**

QIPP principles were employed to increase patient and professional knowledge, raise awareness and improve data recording to enable appropriate targeting of patients for more effective and efficient treatment of COPD.

**Measurement of improvement:**

The Patient Outcome and Information Service (POINTS), provided by GSK, was used to measure changes in key COPD parameters over 18 months (Nov 2011 – April 2013): adherence to NICE standards<sup>4</sup> as a composite measure of 7 parameters.

**Effects of changes:**

Adherence to NICE standards as a composite measure of 7 parameters increased by 15.2% from 49.7% (n=8438 at baseline) to 64.9% (n=8840 at project end)<sup>5</sup>. This was primarily driven by improvements in the recording of exacerbations up 5% from 59% to 64%<sup>5</sup>, increased recording of self management plans up 45.2% from 15.5% to 60.7%<sup>5</sup> and a 55% increase in the number of patients with a recorded CAT score<sup>6</sup> from only 1% at baseline to 56%.<sup>5</sup>

**Lessons learnt:**

Improving skills and capabilities of healthcare professionals in Sunderland and data recording can lead to improved patient experience and better COPD management.

**Message for others:**

Pooling resources from the private sector and the NHS can benefit patients, healthcare providers and GSK.

**References**

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