Evaluation of the Scottish Sepsis VTE Collaborative

About the evaluation

Healthcare Improvement Scotland funded a team of independent researchers to evaluate the Sepsis VTE Collaborative, from 2012-2014.

Aims of the evaluation

- Understand what works ‘on the ground’, and the challenges faced by local teams, in improving sepsis and VTE management;
- Assess how well the Collaborative model is working to support local improvement;
- Provide feedback to faculty on programme design;
- Generate learning for the future on how to optimise the Collaborative approach.

Evaluation Team

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Evaluation approach

Qualitative, theory-oriented evaluation, using ethnographic approach.

- Interviews with faculty, and document analysis, to uncover programme theory.
- Observations at learning events, webexes and site visits to characterise programme in action.
- Observations at 6 pilot sites in Spring 2013 (mainly AMU/MAU/EDs) to explore the impact of the programme on the ground, what approaches were being used to improve care, and what challenges were being faced. Return visits to 3 sites in Spring 2014, focused on sustainability and spread.
  ⇒ ~300 hours of observations
  ⇒ 46 staff interviews
- Two rounds of telephone interviews with staff (12) from a wider range of Boards to explore experiences of the Collaborative.

Some findings on the successes and challenges of improving Sepsis and VTE management in Collaborative sites...