Bright Ideas in Health Awards

Category: Patient Safety Impact Award

This category is open to organisations in the North East and North Cumbria

The aim of all patient safety initiatives is to ultimately reduce avoidable harm within the health system.

This could involve everything from improving communication between teams, to reviewing staff mix, to encouraging staff and patients to speak up about risk.

Some risks are well understood, yet opportunities to apply learning and prevent future harm can be missed.

There are more subtle risks that will become apparent only when we look at safety incidents systematically.

But whether we are dealing with known or unknown risks, there is a need for a culture in which staff can confidently report risks and concerns and know that these issues will be taken seriously and investigated in order to prevent harm from occurring in the first place.

At a time when patient safety is more important than ever, this award recognises initiatives that identify, prevent and reduce risk, while also fostering a positive safety culture where incidents are reported, investigated and used to drive learning and improvement.

Successful entries will demonstrate measurable impact, organisational learning and sustainable improvements in patient safety.

Eligibility:

Open to healthcare organisations, teams and collaborations across the NHS, public sector, voluntary sector and third sector that have developed successful and continually improving patient safety initiatives.

The category questions for the **Patient Safety Impact Award** are:

1. What patient safety risk, issue or challenge does your initiative address?
2. How was the risk identified and understood?
3. What actions were taken to prevent harm or reduce risk?
4. How has the initiative improved reporting, learning or safety culture?
5. What measurable improvements in patient safety have been achieved?
6. How were staff, patients or carers involved?
7. What learning has been generated and shared?

8. How will the improvements be sustained over time?

Specific judging focus:

- Reduction of avoidable harm
- Evidence of measurable safety improvement
- Strength of reporting, learning and improvement culture
- Staff and patient involvement
- Sustainability of safety improvements

Entries will be assessed on the following:
Innovation: originality of the idea
Value: impact of the initiative on patient care and/or service effectiveness
Patient focus: evidence that patient/service user need was central to the work
Collaboration: evidence of the involvement of other professionals, services and/or patients in the project
Clinical effectiveness: data demonstrating how this initiative drives clinical enhancements
Leadership: evidence of entrants championing their innovation in their organisation or more widely
Adaptability: ideas that could be adapted for use elsewhere in entrants' organisations or other organisations
Sustainability: initiatives that can be embedded within organisations to operate without the input of the people who developed them

The deadline for entries is 27 November 2026

For further information and to enter please visit: https://brightideasinhealth.org.uk/

If you have any queries, please contact sarah.black@healthinnovationnenc.org.uk