

The Yorkshire and Humber Medicines Information Network - promoting collaboration on a regional footprint



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Past

After the publication of the Carter review, which classified MI services as 'infrastructure', there was a significant focus on how to use the resources in Medicines Information services efficiently to improve patient care. As such, the first meetings considered opportunities for collaboration and acted as a forum for peer support in a challenging environment for MI services.

Since establishing the collaborative network we have had numerous successful workstreams to improve both quality and efficiency. A small number of our successful collaborations are shown on the maps to the right.

Present

Subsequently, the Yorkshire and Humber Medicines Information Network has been adopted as a subgroup of the Yorkshire Chief Pharmacists Network, with a remit to promote best practice and share information between different MI services and to look for further opportunities for collaboration. Membership is open to anyone working within an NHS Medicines Information service or similar within the Yorkshire and Humber area. There is no obligation to participate in all collaborations. Currently, the network has representatives from:

- Airedale
- Bradford
- Calderdale
- Doncaster
- Harrogate
- Hull
- Leeds
- Leeds and York Partnership
- Mid Yorkshire
- Northern Lincolnshire and Goole
- Rotherham
- Sheffield
- Sheffield Children's Hospital
- York

This has helped to build an active and cohesive network, giving individual members access to a pool of experience in a variety of areas of practice within a regional footprint.

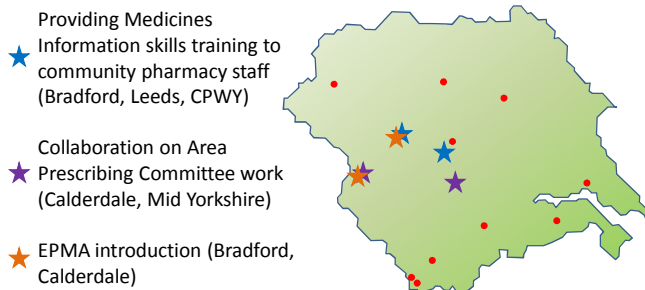
Future

The plan for the future is to continue collaborating on training and further develop the scope for peer review and support. We also plan to move to a 'share and adopt' model, where proactive information is produced once in the region which can then be adopted as-is by other Trusts. This is a step forward from the current 'share and adapt' model where information is shared but then adapted for use by individual Trusts.

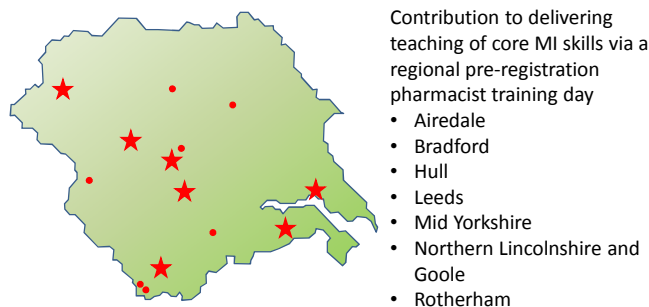
A small MI service benefits hugely from a lot of the hard work the larger centres in the network do. We simply don't have the resources to be able produce the training materials on our own so the network and sharing approach is essential to us.

I totally think our network is brilliant, it's a much more useful thing [...] because we actually feel part of it and can realistically work together.

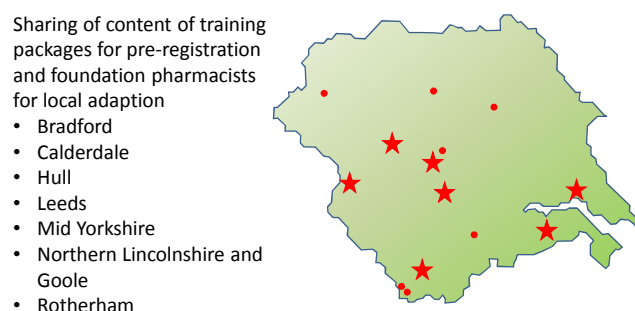
Bilateral MI service collaborations



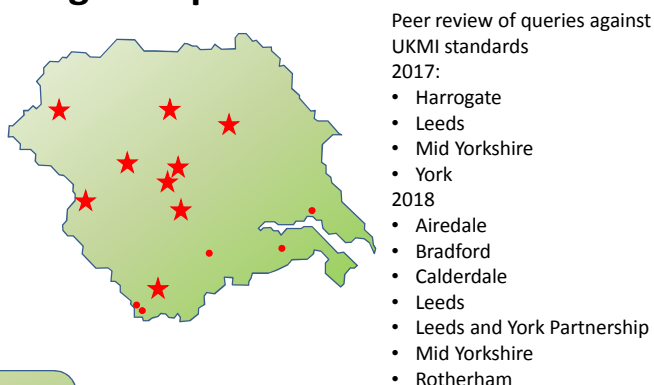
Regional collaboration on delivering pre-registration training



Shared training materials



Regional peer review



Yorkshire and Humber Medicines Information Network