



**CHKS**

Insight for better healthcare  
Part of the AdvT Group

# Assurance in Maternity and Specialist Neonatal Care



# Delivering safe, good quality care

## The challenge

Delivering safe, good quality care to approximately 650,000 mothers and babies each year is challenging, particularly in the face of rising demand and reduced resources. Despite the majority of care being delivered effectively and safely, variation in the levels of care quality is frequently highlighted and attracts much attention and scrutiny.

The growth of evidence on variation in maternity care and outcomes has coincided with increasing demands on hospitals to publish information on the quality of the care they provide. CHKS can help you take practical steps to identify risks, develop improvement programmes and ultimately demonstrate that you have systems in places which reliably provide the best possible care to mothers, babies and their families.

## The CHKS solution

Every hospital needs to understand how safe their maternity services are, yet “there are insufficient data available to present a complete picture of the quality of maternity care” - David Richmond, Vice President - Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists.

Assurance in Maternity and Specialist Neonatal Care combines data analysis with an independent on-site review and expert consultancy support to create a powerful and unique performance measurement and improvement programme. The programme benchmarks the organisation and provides guidance as to where improvements are required.

It highlights good practice, while setting an agenda for service and team development - making sure that all staff within the service are questioning what is done, how it's done and how they can make it better.

**“NHS Resolution has a strategic priority to “collaborate to improve maternity outcomes..... to support the government’s maternity safety ambition to halve rates of stillbirth, neonatal and maternal death and brain injuries that occur during or shortly after birth by 2025.”**

*NHS Resolutions , February 2024*

## Stage 1: Understanding your current level of care quality

We analyse your data and offer an insight into your maternity service to enable you to understand current performance, pinpoint weaknesses, and develop action plans to drive improvements.

Data analysis and insight includes:

- a data-driven dashboard of maternity and neonatal indicators that allows organisations to see current and previous performance at a glance
- analysis and summary by patient group to show variations in care and where improvements might be made
- a national benchmark of care to enable comparison against other similar organisations.

To find out more, please email [info@chks.co.uk](mailto:info@chks.co.uk)

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## Stage 2: Independent gap analysis to identify priorities for action

Our onsite review employs a programme of standards as a framework to evaluate patient safety, patient experience, professional competence, leadership and teamwork and clinical governance.

The onsite review includes:

- a framework of standards for delivery of best maternity and neonatal care
- a gap analysis against standards undertaken by CHKS lead auditors
- an action plan including guidance to leadership teams on how to close the gap between non-compliance and full compliance on each standard
- support to develop a programme of change that tackles areas of non-compliance
- annual reports on progress against standards

## Themes within Maternity and Specialist Neonatal Care Framework

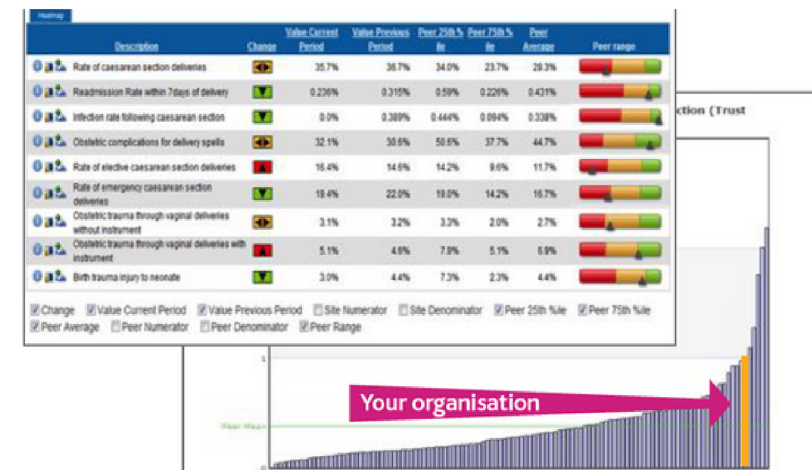
- Standard 1:** Departmental and Service Management
- Standard 2:** Quality Management
- Standard 3:** Risk
- Standard 4:** Patient Focus
- Standard 5:** Competent Workforce
- Standard 6:** Care Management – Maternity Services
- Standard 7:** Care Management- Neonatal Care
- Standard 8:** Administration and Clerical Services
- Standard 9:** Management of Clinical Records
- Standard 10:** Healthcare Record Content and Audit Checklist

## The benefits

- Provides an evidence based framework of care
- Improves the quality and safety of maternity and neonatal services
- Reduces risk
- Provides assurance to stakeholders that you are striving to continually improve care
- Develops your reputation as a high-quality provider of maternity services
- Reduces complaints and litigation
- Demonstrates improvements in care
- Helps you achieve a one-off 10% reduction in your CNST payment.

“Having a baby is the single largest reason for admission to hospital and the experience families have often colours their long-term health and wellbeing and their use of health services.”

*NHS Commissioning Board, 2012*



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