

## Impact report 2018/19

Since the 15 Academic Health Science Networks (AHSNs) were first established in 2013, our collective impact has been significant.

In 2018/19 the AHSN Network has delivered national programmes for:

- NHS England
- NHS Improvement
- The Office for Life Sciences.

Read on for a snap shot of our achievements over the last year →

# Making and measuring our impact at national scale

**The work of England's AHSNs is transforming lives through innovation – delivering better health outcomes, improving patient experience and safety, driving down the costs of care and supporting economic growth.**

The AHSNs are:

- a vital bridge between national strategy and local delivery
- embedded in our regional health systems, allowing us to work across sectors to understand and respond to clinical and care needs
- a connected network, so we can take what works locally and spread it nationally a broker between the NHS and industry, and a trusted partner to signpost solutions.

In the last year AHSNs have demonstrated an ability to gain traction rapidly and create impact. This results from each AHSN being part of a national network, while anchored in its regional health and care ecosystem, linking

the NHS, industry, charity and voluntary sector, patients and citizens, and academia.

In the first year of its new licence, the AHSN Network has undertaken a first in the NHS: the coordinated and systematic

spread of a portfolio of innovation programmes and products on a national level.

As a result we are developing a framework of shared approaches and methodologies for spread and adoption.



Due to our unique relationship with all the agents and beneficiaries of transformative innovation, our three national commissions are mutually reinforcing each other, each stronger and more effective because of the mandate we have from our regions coupled with our commitment to collaborate nationally.

**Dr Séamus O'Neill,**  
Chair of the  
AHSN Network



# Three mutually reinforcing commissions



## National delivery on health and wealth

The AHSN Network is a key partner in the Accelerated Access Collaborative (AAC), working to simplify the health innovation landscape. This can be seen in particular through our work for the Office for Life Sciences, in particular our Innovation Exchange, which is maximising our links with industry (horizon scanning) and the NHS frontline (demand signalling).

The AHSNs also support national programmes, such as the NHS Innovation Accelerator and the Innovation and Technology Payment to increase uptake of proven innovation and reduce variation across the NHS, enabling more patients to benefit faster from new products and services.

Each AHSN is also nurturing and developing innovations developed in its own region, many of which have the potential to be adopted nationally.

AHSNs are also delivering on their wider remit to stimulate economic growth. Our support for HealthTech companies is creating and safeguarding jobs, while attracting further investment.

**Take a look at how our collective, multi-agency approach is already achieving significant impact on a national level →**

## Improving safety

AHSNs continue to host the 15 Patient Safety Collaboratives (PSCs) across England.

Commissioned by NHS Improvement, the PSCs are vital delivery agents of the national patient strategy,

linking frontline staff, system leaders, commissioners, researchers and innovators.

By sharing methodologies and ways of working, the AHSNs are collaborating to amplify impact.

## Adoption and spread programmes

Commissioned by NHS England, the AHSNs are delivering seven programmes, developed regionally and selected for adoption and spread across the AHSN Network during 2018-20:

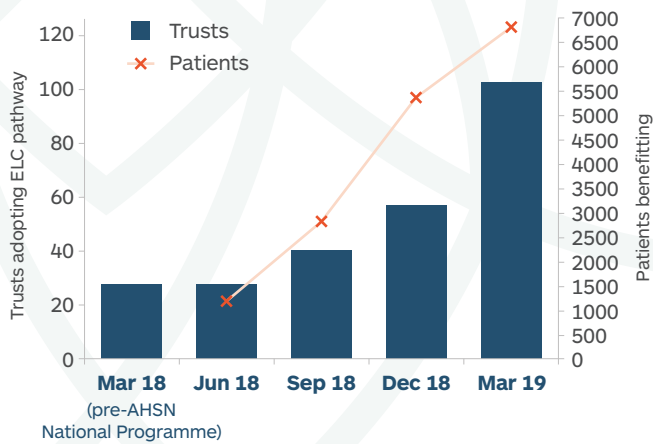
- Atrial fibrillation
- Emergency Laparotomy Collaborative
- ESCAPE-pain
- PINCER
- PReCePT
- Serenity Integrated Mentoring (SIM)
- Transfer of Care Around Medicines (TCAM)

At the mid-way point in these programmes, we are already seeing impressive levels of adoption by the system with tangible patient benefits.

# Driving national adoption and spread

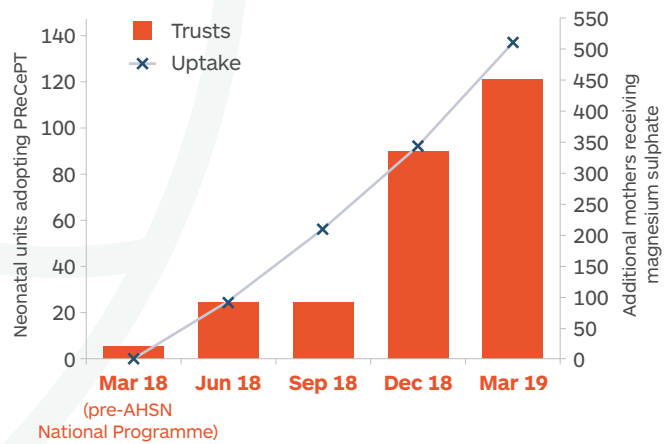
## Emergency laparotomy

A collaborative approach to improving standards of care for patients undergoing emergency laparotomy surgery.



## PReCePT

Working with maternity hospitals to use magnesium sulphate to prevent cerebral palsy in very premature babies.



**268%** increase in NHS trusts adopting

**552%** increase in patients benefiting

Every £1 spent = **£4.50** benefit to health economy

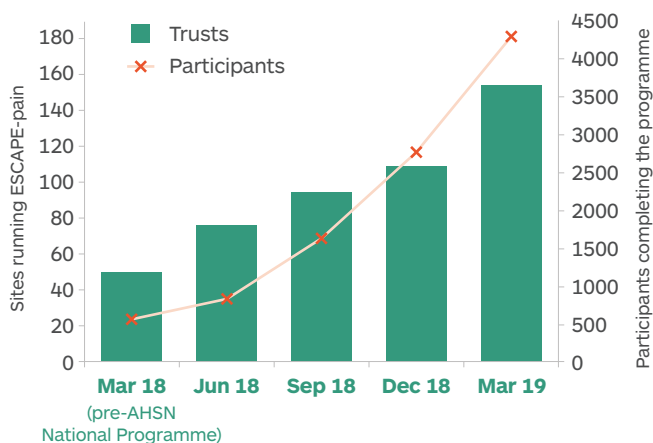
**79.5%** uptake of magnesium sulphate for eligible mothers

An estimated **13** cases of cerebral palsy avoided by PReCePT

**£10.4 million** savings in lifetime health & social care costs

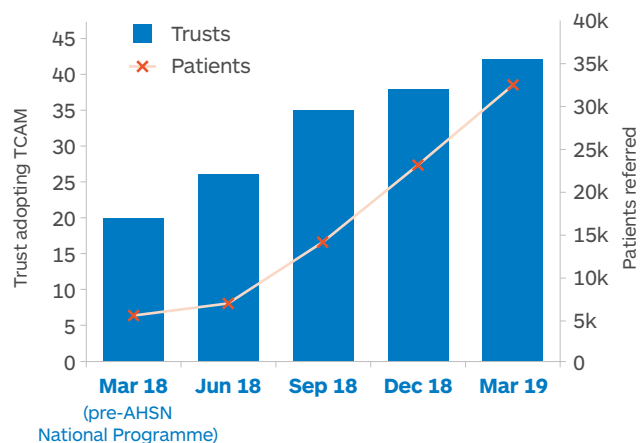
## ESCAPE-pain

A group rehabilitation programme for people with osteoarthritis, providing self-management support in the community.



## Transfer of Care Around Medicines

Help for patients who need extra support with prescribed medicines when they leave hospital.



**4,309** people with osteoarthritis participated in ESCAPE-pain

Spread from **50 to 154** sites

**482%** increase in participants

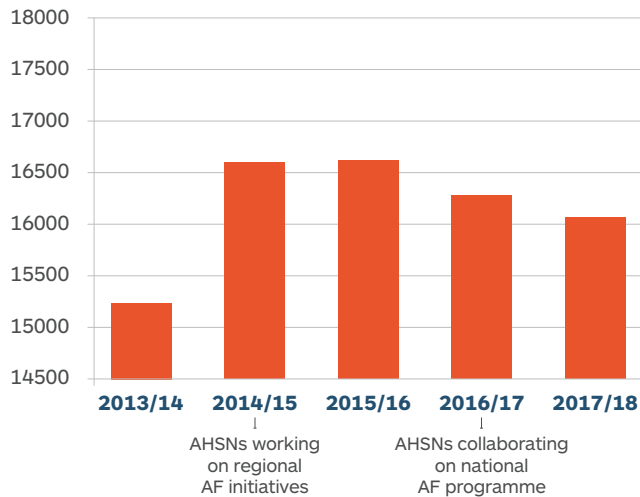
**32,758** patients referred

Spread from **20 to 42** trusts

**498%** increase in patients benefiting

# National impact through local action: Atrial fibrillation (AF) stroke prevention

## AF-related strokes



**AF-related strokes are life changing and represent a significant burden to patients, carers, the NHS and social care.**

There are significant gains to be achieved for patients, the NHS and social care by improving the detection and management of people with AF. This is why the AHSNs have collectively identified best practice

in AF stroke prevention at a local level and are working to disseminate this across the national network.

The AHSN Network is drawing on shared experience and intelligence to:

- increase the detection of AF
- increase the uptake of anticoagulation therapy
- optimise use of anticoagulants in patients diagnosed with AF.

Since 2016 the AHSN Network, in collaboration with partners in the NHS and social care, has helped to deliver an increase in AF diagnosis of over 130,000 people and provided lifesaving anticoagulation therapy to 150,000 more people with AF who are at high risk of a stroke.



**1,156%**

increase in GP practices adopting PINCER, from **50** to **628** in 12 months

### PINCER

Pharmacist-led **I**nformation technology intervention for **R**educing **C**linically Important **E**rrors is helping tackle high risk prescribing in the community.



**340%**

increase in mental health trusts adopting SIM, from **5** to **17** in 12 months

### Serenity Integrated Mentoring (SIM)

SIM brings together police and healthcare professionals to make a positive difference to the lives of people with complex mental health needs.

# Supporting economic growth

**The AHSN Network helps mobilise the value that the NHS can add as an economic asset to the UK economy.**

We broker access to a range of expert support and services across the health and care sectors that support NHS innovators and companies to realise the commercial and economic potential of their ideas.

AHSNs support the regional 'import and export' of healthcare innovation through our Innovation Exchange. This is a coordinated approach to identify, select and support the adoption of innovations that improve our economy and patients' lives. The Innovation Exchange also identifies innovations for the Accelerated Access Collaborative.

The Innovation Exchange has four structured elements:

1. defining system needs
2. innovator support and signposting
3. real-world validation
4. spread and adoption of supported innovations.



## £152 million

of inward investment has been leveraged, **£144 million** by AHSNs and £8 million by the NHS Innovation Accelerator



## 188 jobs

have been safeguarded, **170** by companies supported by AHSNs and 18 by the NHS Innovation Accelerator



## 691 jobs

have been created, **558** by companies supported by AHSNs and 133 by the NHS Innovation Accelerator



## 2,605

companies have been supported by the AHSNs



## 3,630

innovations have been developed or spread with help from the AHSNs

# Innovation and Technology Payment (ITP)

## – evidencing the AHSNs' unique value

The Innovation and Technology Payment (ITP) programme is fast-tracking the rollout of latest technology across the country, building on progress in the past two years.

The AHSNs are responsible for accelerating uptake locally, as an important part of our work to increase uptake of proven innovation and reduce variation across the NHS, enabling more patients to benefit faster from new products and services.

In the last year, AHSNs have supported hundreds of NHS organisations to introduce ITP innovations, helping the health service to take full advantage of these rapidly advancing medical innovations.



### EndoCuff

from 17 sites to 101 and  
from 1,500 units to 39,000  
in 12 months

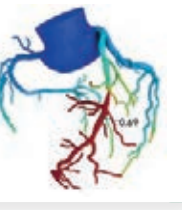
72% of eligible sites  
adopted



### SecurAcath

from 55 sites to 92 and  
from 7,830 units to 84,000  
in 12 months

67% of eligible sites  
adopted



### HeartFlow

from 7 sites to 34 and  
from 86 scans analysed  
to 3,289 in 12 months

NICE guidance suggests  
savings of over £700,000



### Urolift

from 24 to 66 sites and  
from 1,200 to 2,202 patients  
treated in 12 months

Saving the NHS up to  
£350,000 in bed days  
(approximately 900 bed days)

Four examples of how the AHSNs are accelerating uptake of ITP innovations

# The AHSN Network



Find details for your regional AHSN at [www.ahsnnetwork.com](http://www.ahsnnetwork.com)

For case studies on innovations supported by the AHSNs visit our Atlas of Solutions in Healthcare at [atlas.ahsnnetwork.com](http://atlas.ahsnnetwork.com)

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Office for  
Life Sciences

