

A Clean Start for Care Homes – Piloting implementation of the National Cleaning Standards into Care Homes



Project Team
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About the Project
The Cleaning Standards Framework was published in 2021. It is not mandatory but considered good practice. To support Gloucestershire nursing homes implement these standards, a pilot project was developed. The purpose was to test if a structured Quality Improvement plan supported by a mentor was implemented if it would assist care homes adopt the standards.

Aims & Objectives
To enable selected care settings to reduce infection transmission by adopting the national framework for cleaning standards within 12 months of implementation.

Measures Used
Mock efficacy audit used to benchmark and assess progress, what had been achieved as well as the gaps for development

Quality Service Improvement and Redesign (QSIR) Tools: Methodologies used and contribution to your project

A review of the QSIR literature highlighted the importance of collaboration and support. A key message: ****Enthusiasm, perseverance, good project management skills, and a willingness to explain your project to others and seek their support are key skills****.

Plan	Do	Study	Act
Process mapping	Follow process as SOP	Review accuracy of process map	Adjustments needed to account for challenges faced
Visit Hospital to learn methods of cleaning standards implementation	Visit completed	Visit highlighted the need for a more mentoring approach	Mentoring at for front of thinking
Meet with home to discuss implementation of pilot	Visit completed	Review feedback given - IT infrastructure not available so home has been printing everything (Not printer friendly)	Advice/ support provided for IT solution (also consider printable versions of material for homes with lack of IT)
Complete final visit and consolidate feedback	Meet with mentor and manager to go through project success	Evaluation complete. SWOT analysis used to consolidate feedback	Consider Weaknesses and threats. Make appropriate changes for next cohort

Project Outcomes, Progress and Impact
A mentoring approach facilitated implementation of the cleaning standards in both care homes. This project has seen a significant (but not complete) improvement in general cleaning in the pilot homes. Moving forward the learning for the CHIP team was that we need to maintain support to the care homes, offer the efficacy audits on a scheduled basis and facilitating training events on cleaning. In the next phase, 8 additional homes have agreed to participate in this project. Lessons learnt will be incorporated to improve new participants experience.

- Learning for the Improvement Community**
- Using an enthusiastic mentoring approach has kept up momentum of the implementation of the project.
 - Using QI methodology strengthened collaboration and promoted ownership of the project by the care home.
 - Process map provided a guide and reference so that the project remained focussed.