

Nursing and SIGN Clinical Engagement Compact

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www.healthcareimprovementscotland.org

Clinical engagement

Benefits

The Royal College of Nursing (RCN) would like to hear from you if:

- You are a registered nurse, health visitor or midwife whether in practice, an educator, a researcher, in management or in any other capacity and would like to get involved in the development of national guidance work
- You have a keen interest in guideline development
- You would like to know more about the RCN's involvement in the SIGN work programme

Benefits to you

- Your contribution is acknowledged and will provide support for career development and appraisal
- Opportunity to contribute and influence at a national level to improve patient care
- Enhanced training and skills opportunities
- Contributes to your continuing professional development which could support your revalidation
- Gain experience and transferable skills
- Opportunities to network with other professionals with a shared focus for improving patient care
- Provides networking opportunities across NHSScotland and beyond

Benefits to your organisation

- The potential to build capacity, capability and leadership within your team to deliver lasting improvements
- Enabling collaborative work locally and nationally
- National recognition as a healthcare organisation committed to supporting quality improvement
- Efficient and effective way of supporting, developing and retaining staff
- Improvement support to enable clinicians to apply their learning in a local setting
- Transferable knowledge, skills and experience that can be shared with colleagues locally
- Shared focus on improving healthcare

“I was delighted to be invited to work with SIGN in the development of national guidelines for squamous cell carcinoma. To be honest I never fully appreciated the amount of work involved in the process, which was both rigorous and challenging. On a professional level it gave me the opportunity to work with a team of expert professionals within my own specialty - I learned a lot more than I had anticipated. There was a fun element too with the many debates that ensued between the groups when bringing the guidelines together. It was great to be part of the group.”

Wilma Ford
MacMillan Skin Cancer Clinical Nurse Specialist
NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde

“For me being part of the guideline group was more about being involved in the development of the heart failure guidelines and learning from others. Being able to share experience and practice and discuss what is best practice for heart failure patients is important. It also looks good on your CV which is a bonus too!”

Mandi Smith
Lead Heart Failure Nurse
Raigmore Hospital, Inverness

“I increased my knowledge of the evidence in the subject area and I also learned a great deal from the other group members. It also makes you aware of the difficulties in areas of good practice where there is no robust evidence to support the effective work taking place. Being on the group also provides a platform to give a nursing perspective, and the associated evidence and good practice.”

Lynda Blue
HCI Programme Manager
British Heart Foundation
London



Nursing and SIGN Compact

The Nursing and SIGN Compact is a partnership agreement between SIGN, RCN, Healthcare Improvement Scotland and nurses who work with us. It is designed to facilitate a clearer understanding about what we can expect from each other to ensure meaningful and sustainable relationships with clinical communities, and take forward improvements to patient care.

In working with SIGN, the RCN aims to:

- be the definitive voice of nursing on the SIGN guideline work programme
- ensure nurses are represented on relevant SIGN guideline development groups
- encourage nurses to actively participate in the SIGN work programme so that SIGN guidelines include the nursing perspective where relevant
- promote this as potential to build capacity, capability and leadership within teams to deliver lasting improvement work
- acknowledge nurses' involvement in the work
- maintain national recognition as a healthcare organisation committed to supporting quality improvement
- actively raise the profile of nursing involvement in this important national work
- enhance opportunities for members to gain transferable knowledge, skills and experience that can be shared with colleagues locally, and
- promote this as an efficient and effective way of supporting, developing and retaining staff.

Healthcare Improvement Scotland with SIGN will:

- ensure clear and transparent processes are in place to support you to work with us
- share information with you about our work
- provide engagement and networking opportunities, both within our organisations and at national level
- work with you to continually review and improve our approach to engaging with nurses, and
- provide appropriate professional leadership from our Clinical Directorate.

Nurses will:

- provide clear and timely clinical advice to our work ensuring that our recommendations fit locally
- help us identify the key stakeholder groups that should be involved in our work ('who' and 'how')
- act as an ambassador for Healthcare Improvement Scotland and help communicate our recommendations to the clinical community
- support us in evaluating and measuring the impact of our work
- clearly articulate the organisational support that you will require to help you to work with us, and
- accept and provide feedback constructively.

“Working with the SIGN guideline group has provided an opportunity to ensure the robust consideration of heart failure specialist nursing within contemporary care, whilst promoting my personal development throughout the research, debate and discussion aspects of this work. The benefit of multidisciplinary team involvement is crucial to the development of a successful, useable and valued source of clinical guidance.”

Jill Nicholls
Heart Failure Specialist Nurse
NHS Tayside

For more information, please contact:

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Healthcare Improvement Scotland: 0141 225 6999

Scottish Intercollegiate Guidelines Network: 0131 623 4720

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The Healthcare Environment Inspectorate, Improvement Hub, Scottish Health Council, Scottish Health Technologies Group, Scottish Intercollegiate Guidelines Network (SIGN) and Scottish Medicines Consortium are part of Healthcare Improvement Scotland.

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