

“Clinical audits give me a way to demonstrate that my service is meeting quality targets. It’s part of a culture that puts quality firmly on the agenda” Manager



Clinical Audit Cycle



Further Information

If you require any further information please contact

Clinical Audit Department

01 414 2855

Did you find this leaflet helpful?

Let us know if you have any suggestions as to how we could improve.

Return email suggestion to

clinicalaudit@amnch.ie

Protection of your personal data is important. Clinical audits comply with the General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR)

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Tallaght University Hospital

Ospidéal Ollscoile Thamhlachta

An Academic Partner of Trinity College Dublin

PATIENT INFORMATION LEAFLET

Clinical Audit

Checking you receive safe evidence-based care

What is Clinical Audit

Clinical audit is one of the ways Healthcare Professionals check that the care they provide to Patients is safe and up to date. This is called evidence-based practice



Doctors, Nurses and other Healthcare Professionals conduct clinical audits as part of their professional responsibilities to ensure you receive the highest quality care.

A clinical audit involves selecting an area of practice that needs to be checked, identifying the latest best practice (evidence/standards) and then comparing care to the evidence. If the audit results show areas that could be improved then changes are made and the audit is repeated to monitor progress. This is called the clinical audit cycle.

“Clinical audits give me a way to check that the care I am providing is of a high standard. It helps with my education and training and keeps me up to date with best practice”
Lead Clinical Director

Confidentiality & Data Protection



We may use information contained in your healthcare record in order to carry out a clinical audit.

You will not be contacted directly and you do not need to give your consent if we use your healthcare information for a clinical audit.

This is because your name and personal details are either not used or kept confidential and are not included in the audit findings and audit report.

Sometimes a clinical audit involves patients taking an active part in the audit process and your personal details are an important part of the audit. In this type of audit you will be asked to give your consent.

Types of Clinical Audits

There are different types of clinical audits. Below are some examples.

- Hand hygiene audit
- Documentation audit
- Patient observations
- Medication prescribing

Some audits involve observing a healthcare professional's practice. Other audits involve review of a patient's healthcare record or talking to patients.

“I was asked to take part in a clinical audit. I was pleased to answer questions because it was good to know that my experience might help to improve the service and it is reassuring that they are looking at the care that they give” Patient