SCAN4SAFETY
LESSONS FROM NHS EXPO
Insights from Derby Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

- Kevin Downs (KD), Derby NHS Director of Finance & Performance
- James Mayne (JM), Derby NHS Scan4Safety Programme Manager
- Sara Ford (SF), MD, Accenture UK & Ireland Healthcare Consulting

SF: From what we’ve seen and the implementations that we’ve done, the clinicians have been very positive towards Scan4Safety. It’s providing real insights into their operations, into their procedures on the wards. And it’s helping them to reduce clinical variation, to improve patient outcomes.

KD: It was a request of our audit committee to actually improve our stock control system that set us on the road to scanning.

JM: So it kind of started off as a kind of a procurement based product, or project.

KD: As a result of that we drove scanning in our theatres and produced individual patient costing, which won us the Costing Award from the HFMA in 2014.

JM: They might use a different number of staff in different roles, they might use a different volume of products, they might use different products.

KD: And start supplying clinicians with some real management information so they could start comparing clinical variation and clinical practice.

JM: And understand if there is anything that they can do based on that output.

KD: Results have been phenomenal. We’re now improving our performance by about £1.2/1.3m a year in terms of just saving waste.

JM: Now, because of scan for safety, we’ve also realised further opportunities touching pathology and other areas of our hospital.

KD: Added to that I’ve got the total traceability of product and if I get a product recall I can instantly identify the patients that are affected.

SF: From my perspective there are huge organisational benefits in patient safety, in clinical outcomes and data driven analysis, and also in cost reduction.

KD: The real result is improved management information in detail across the NHS, which my clinicians can use to give better patient care.

JM: And we’ve been conservative with £1.2m, and think that’s one site. I mean how many acute hospitals are there in the NHS? So basic mathematics says it’s worth doing and that’s just the start of the process with what we’ve delivered.

SF: My sincere hope is that it’s adopted at speed throughout the NHS.

KD: Accenture have been key to the project in terms of producing the business case to get the Department of Health funding.
JM: Accenture were fantastic. They were onsite once a week for the whole programme and they provided it with fantastic knowledge, experience.

KD: They’ve also challenged us to develop new areas and asked questions that probably wouldn’t have occurred to us on a normal day to day basis.