



PRESS RELEASE

12th November 2009
For immediate release

Aneurin Bevan Health Board has fastest falling mortality rates in Wales, according to latest analysis

Recent analysis of mortality ratios by CHKS, the UK's leading independent provider of healthcare intelligence and quality improvement services, has found that Aneurin Bevan Health Board (formerly Gwent Healthcare NHS Trust) has reduced its mortality ratio significantly and is now well below the Welsh average.

The risk adjusted mortality ratio at Aneurin Bevan Health Board is now 72 compared with a risk adjusted mortality ratio average of 99 for all hospitals in Wales¹. The trust believes that the success of this initiative can be attributed to ensuring that the reported data is a true reflection of activity within the trust but also at individual clinician level.

The commitment and collaborative working of the three groups; clinical teams, the Saving 1,000 Lives team and the informatics and coding team was instrumental in lowering the mortality ratio. Between them they introduced a range of initiatives to ensure consistency and a clinically audited reporting measure.

Jason Harries, managing director, CHKS said: "Aneurin Bevan Health Board has clearly set the standard for other trusts in Wales. The partnership working between clinicians and coders has paid off and reveals the importance of accurate data collection and measurement. We are delighted to have played our part in this."

- ends -

Notes to editors:

1. A risk adjusted mortality ratio of 100 means the number of observed deaths equals the number of expected deaths, allowing for variations in cases treated. A ratio of 72 means that there were 28 per cent fewer deaths than were expected.

2. CHKS Ltd, part of the Capita Group Plc, is the leading independent provider of healthcare intelligence and quality improvement services to the NHS and independent healthcare sector. With over 20 years' experience and working internationally with 480 clients, CHKS has a portfolio of information products, internationally-recognised accreditation programmes and consultancy services which provide clinicians and managers with the information needed to drive improvements in patient care, financial efficiency, clinical effectiveness and quality. The CHKS Advisory Board was set up in 2007 to provide direction and advice on strategic healthcare issues in the UK and overseas.

For media enquires please contact:

Julian Tyndale-Biscoe, InHealth Communications, on 07882 985597 or Matt Murphy on 07891 313671.

Head Office: CHKS Ltd, 1 Arden Court, Arden Road, Alcester, Warwickshire B49 6HN
Tel: 01789 761600 Fax: 01789 764608