



PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

CHKS joins Department of Health's HSMR working group

CHKS, the UK's leading independent provider of healthcare intelligence and quality improvement services, has joined the [working group](#) set up by the Department of Health that will investigate hospital standardised mortality ratios (HSMRs), agree a single methodology and prepare guidance on what they mean and how they should be interpreted.

The working group was set up by NHS Medical Director Sir Bruce Keogh. It will be chaired by Ian Dalton, chief executive, North East Strategic Health Authority and other organisations will include the National Patient Safety Agency, Care Quality Commission and the NHS Information Centre.

Jason Harries, managing director, CHKS, said: "We fully support the view that mortality ratios have limitations and should not be used as a sole indicator of patient safety, or quality of care. We are also supportive of a single transparent methodology. The working group has already agreed that until we have a single methodology the HSMR devised by professor sir Brian Jarman will be used. We are very pleased that the methodology for this HSMR has been made fully available to us for the first time."

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Notes to editors:

1. 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 inpatient care, financial efficiency, clinical effectiveness and quality. CHKS has an Advisory Board to provide direction and advice on strategic healthcare issues in the UK and overseas.

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