



PRESS RELEASE

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For immediate release

CHKS welcomes move to make Patient Reported Outcomes part of standard NHS contract

The latest Operating Framework's requirement for hospitals to collect patient reported outcomes measures (PROMs) for four procedures has been welcomed by CHKS Group - the UK's leading independent provider of healthcare intelligence and quality improvement services.

From April 2009, all NHS hospital trusts will be required by the standard acute trust contract to collect PROMs, both specific and non-specific outcome measures for: Primary Unilateral Hip Replacement; Primary Unilateral Knee Replacement; Groin Hernia Repair and Varicose Vein Procedures.

All patients aged 16 or over, listed for these procedures will be invited to complete PROMs questionnaires. The Department of Health will provide further information on the routine use of PROMs, and on how sample PROMs instruments can be obtained, early in 2008.

As one of the pioneers in the development of PROMs, CHKS group has welcomed this initiative. Heather Walker, Consultancy Director, CHKS said: "CHKS has been involved in the collection of Patient Reported Outcomes (of which EQ5D is one measure) for over nine years. We were instrumental in instigating the use of outcomes measures with independent hospital providers and have gone on to piloting outcome measures within the NHS.

(cont.)

EQ5D was one of two instruments selected for this and for the last eighteen months CHKS has specifically been collecting EQ5D with a number of NHS Trusts to start to build a normative database allowing for comparisons between providers/conditions for the unselected population that the NHS serves.

The patient's perspective is critical to the proper analysis of the allocation of scarce healthcare resources and we are delighted to hear that the DH has decided to start using this respected tool to listen to the patients' views."

Notes to editors:

CHKS Group is the leading independent provider of healthcare information and quality improvement services to the NHS and independent healthcare sector. With over 18 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.

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