



## PRESS RELEASE

Embargoed 3pm, Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2008

### **New UK hospital awards recognise outstanding achievement in patient safety, quality of care and data quality**

The winners of three new awards open to all hospital trusts in the UK - recognising outstanding achievement in the areas of patient safety quality of care and data quality - have been announced by CHKS Group.

CHKS Group, the UK's leading independent provider of healthcare intelligence and quality improvement services, used detailed analysis of publicly-available data to assess UK hospitals. The award winners, named at a ceremony in London were:

- **Patient Safety Award**, Salisbury NHS Foundation Trust
- **Quality of Care Award**, Cambridge University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust
- **Data quality (England)**, East Kent Hospitals NHS Trust
- **Data quality (Scotland)**, NHS Tayside
- **Data quality (Wales)**, Cardiff and Vale NHS Trust
- **Data quality (Northern Ireland)**, Belfast Health & Social Care Trust

In addition, CHKS Group made awards to 40 Top hospital trusts (for list see notes to editors) named from its client base (covering over 75% of acute trust activity across the UK) based on the evaluation of 20 key performance indicators covering clinical effectiveness, health outcomes, efficiency, patient experience and quality of care. It also named Sygehus Sønderjylland, Denmark as the Quality Improvement Award winner for making significant improvements to patient care and patient experience as well as staff welfare, safety and morale.

(cont.)

The Most Improved Award, amongst the 40 Top Hospitals, went to Burton Hospitals NHS Trust. This award recognises the importance of continuous quality improvement and is based on the evaluation of trust performance compared to the previous year.

James Coles, Director of Research, CHKS Group, said: "Patient safety, quality of care and data quality are all crucial to the delivery of good healthcare. Alongside our 40 Top Awards, our new awards are designed to celebrate excellence and highlight those outstanding hospitals in each of these three areas."

- ends -

#### **Notes to editors:**

##### **1. CHKS Patient Safety Award**

This award recognises outstanding performance in providing a safe hospital environment for patients. It is based on a number of criteria, including rates of hospital-acquired infections and of the number of patients dying in hospital.

##### **2. CHKS Quality of Care Award**

This award recognises excellence in providing the right level of care to patients according to their diagnosis. It is based on a number of criteria including the length of time patients stay in hospital, the rate of emergency re-admissions and whether the care pathway proceeded as originally intended.

##### **3. CHKS Data Quality Award**

This award recognises excellence in clinical coding which plays an essential role in improving the quality of care provided to patients. Clinical treatment codes are allocated to every patient admitted to hospital and tracked to make sure the patients' details are accurately recorded and available to clinicians.

##### **4. CHKS Quality Improvement Award**

The award recognises significant improvements to patient care and patient experience as well as staff welfare, safety and morale. The CHKS Quality Improvement Award 2008 is open to all healthcare organisations accredited by CHKS in 2007. Submissions were evaluated by the CHKS Accreditation Awards Panel – comprising senior healthcare experts representing Royal Colleges and national institutes.

##### **5. CHKS 40 Top Hospitals**

Basingstoke and North Hampshire Foundation NHS Trust  
Bedford Hospital NHS Trust  
Blackpool, Fylde and Wyre Hospitals NHS Trust

Bro Morgannwg NHS Trust  
Bromley Hospitals NHS Trust  
Burton Hospitals NHS Trust  
Cambridge University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust  
Carmarthenshire NHS Trust  
Countess of Chester Hospital NHS Foundation Trust  
County Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation Trust  
Dartford and Gravesham NHS Trust  
Frimley Park Hospital NHS Foundation Trust  
Gateshead Health NHS Foundation Trust  
Guy's and St Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust  
Heatherwood and Wexham Park Hospitals NHS Trust  
Hereford Hospitals NHS Trust  
Hinchingsbrooke Health Care NHS Trust  
Kings College Hospital NHS Foundation Trust  
Kingston Hospital NHS Trust  
Liverpool Womens NHS Foundation Trust  
Mid Essex Hospitals NHS Trust  
Northumbria Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust  
Papworth Hospital NHS Foundation Trust  
Plymouth Hospitals NHS Trust  
Pontypridd and Rhondda NHS Trust  
Poole Hospital NHS Trust  
Royal Surrey County Hospital NHS Trust  
Royal West Sussex NHS Trust  
South Eastern Health and Social Care Trust  
South Tees Hospitals NHS Trust  
South Tyneside NHS Foundation Trust  
Southport and Ormskirk Hospital NHS Trust  
The Mid Cheshire Hospitals NHS Trust  
The Newcastle Upon Tyne Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust  
University College London Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust  
West Hertfordshire Hospitals NHS Trust  
Weston Area Health NHS Trust  
Wirral Hospital NHS Trust  
Worthing and Southlands Hospitals NHS Trust  
York Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

## **6. Most Improved Award**

This award recognises the importance of continuous quality improvement and is based on the evaluation of trust performance compared to the previous year. The indicators are those used for the 40 Top Hospital Awards and cover clinical effectiveness, health outcomes, efficiency, patient experience and quality of healthcare.

## **7. About CHKS Group**

CHKS Group is the leading independent provider of healthcare intelligence 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.

**For media enquires please contact:**

Julian Tyndale-Biscoe, InHealth Communications, on 07882 985597 or Paul Robinson, CHKS, on 07973 234830.

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