

## Clinical Knowledge & Pathways of Care

Parul Desai and Jens Kolind  
NHS Connecting for Health

Care Pathways 2008



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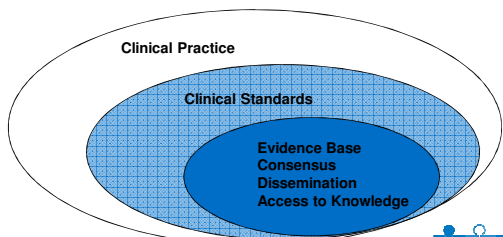
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## Clinical knowledge helps to deliver best practice care



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## Context / Challenges

### Major re-organisations in the NHS

- Referrals *health services*
- Commissioning *health services*
- Service provision
- Service organisation

➔ Standards driven NHS - WCC  
- Darzi  
- NPIIT



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### Current Issues with clinical knowledge

- no national system or processes for **agreeing clinical knowledge** for clinical care
- no nationally agreed process for **assuring clinical knowledge** – each tool has developed their own process
- no consistent national approach to **developing pathways** from clinical knowledge
- no consistent mechanism for **updating existing pathways**
- no consistent process for **embedding pathways** into clinical systems



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### Glaucoma example

Do Once and Share Programme  
– network of over 45 national clinical projects

**Aims :**

- Clinical engagement
- Clinical pathway
- Clinical dataset



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### DOAS Glaucoma pathway and dataset

Cross-sector and multi-professional approach

Identified existing sources of good clinical practice from –

- Professional body guidance – nationally and internationally relevant to the NHS
- Protocols and guidelines in use by glaucoma specialists and clinical teams across the country
- Existing ophthalmic information systems

Input from Patient Focus Groups

Multi-disciplinary national consultation



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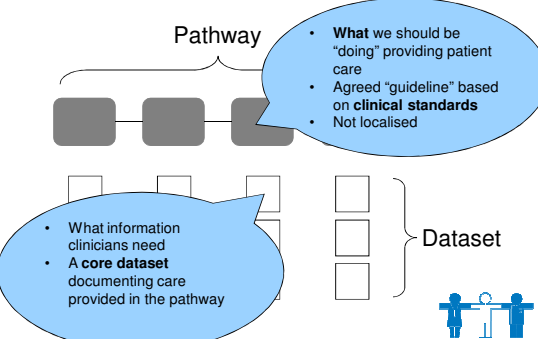
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**Glaucoma project results** 




**Pathway**

- What we should be "doing" providing patient care
- Agreed "guideline" based on **clinical standards**
- Not localised

**Dataset**

- What information clinicians need
- A **core dataset** documenting care provided in the pathway




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**DOAS Glaucoma** 

- ➔ a care pathway and dataset incorporating clinical standards
- ➔ Approved by all relevant professional bodies

**K** NOWLDEGE  
**I** NFORMATION  
**S** ERVICEABLE  
**S** TANDARDS




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**Issues with DOAS Gluacoma** 

- Uptake by specialist software companies
- Informing PBC and service re-design

**But –**

- No standard formats or outputs limit implementation into strategic IT solutions
- Difficulty with a national implementation
- Reliant on professional bodies for updating the knowledge - time, resource constraints
- No process for integrating the clinical and technical components – for development or updating

- ➔ Process unsustainable in long and wider term




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## Pathways of Care Programme

1. Support development of an assurance framework for clinical knowledge, run and managed by the NHS
2. Create clinical and technical standards for integrating clinical knowledge and pathways into the strategic IT solutions
3. Encourage use of the Map of Medicine, and integrate this as the first knowledge product




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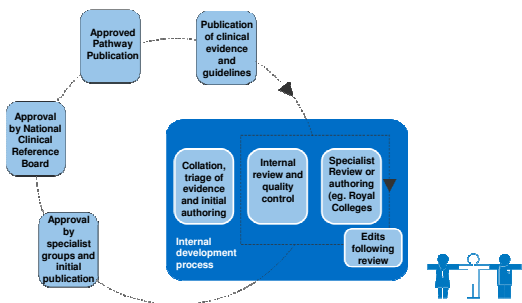
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## Support development of assurance framework for clinical knowledge




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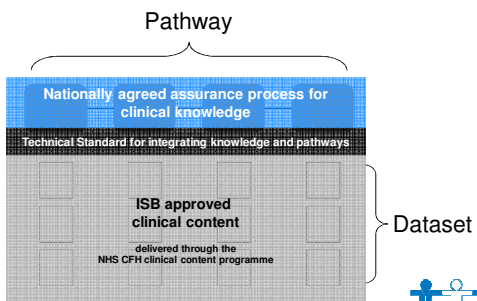
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## Create standards for integrating clinical knowledge




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Encourage use of Map of Medicine  
as the first product for integration

NHS  
Connecting for Health

	Knowledge	Single organisation Pathways	Cross organisation pathways
Nationally Defined	Map of Medicine		
Regionally Defined			Pathways integrated into LSP solutions
Personally Defined			




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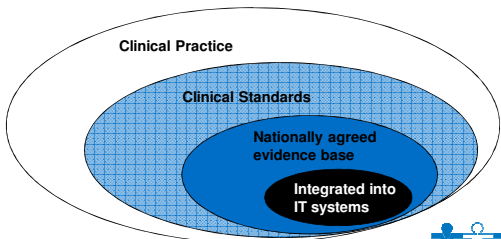
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NHS  
Connecting for Health




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## Clinical Knowledge & Pathways of Care

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NHS  
Connecting for Health




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