

# Scaling Up Quality Improvement for Surgical Teams

<b>Submission date</b> 15/02/2018	<b>Recruitment status</b> No longer recruiting	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Prospectively registered <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Protocol
<b>Registration date</b> 21/02/2018	<b>Overall study status</b> Completed	<input type="checkbox"/> Statistical analysis plan <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Results
<b>Last Edited</b> 14/03/2022	<b>Condition category</b> Other	<input type="checkbox"/> Individual participant data

## Plain English summary of protocol

### Background and study aims

The Institute for Health Improvement (IHI) Breakthrough Series Collaborative model is a short-term learning system that brings together a large number of teams to seek improvement in a focused topic area and proven intervention. Collaboratives provide a suitable vehicle for delivery of a project at this scale, as they not only aim to maximise local engagement and leadership but are designed to build capacity, enable learning and prepare for sustainability. The key elements of participation in the Breakthrough Series Collaborative training and support for teams from Trusts are:

learning sessions, action periods, and summative congress. The aim of the trial is to assess the effectiveness and cost-effectiveness of the Breakthrough Series Collaborative (BSC) method for improving outcomes in patients undergoing elective total hip and knee replacement surgery.

### Who can participate?

NHS Acute Trusts

### What does the study involve?

Each participating NHS Trust is treated as a cluster, and are randomised 1:1 using minimisation by number of hip and knee replacement procedures performed and the traffic light indicators in the Learning From Mistakes league table. Trusts in both arms in the trial receive the intervention, i.e. training in the Breakthrough Series Collaborative. Trusts are randomised to receive either training on MSSA to control post-surgery infection (20 hospitals) or training on the anaemia optimisation programme (20 hospitals). None of the participating Trusts will have implemented either protocol prior to acceptance into the trial. Therefore, the control group for the anaemia optimisation quality improvement initiative are the other 20 hospitals who continue with their usual practice for anaemia and vice versa, the control group for MSSA are the other 20 hospitals who continue with their usual practice for MSSA screening. Trusts are given the opportunity to be trained in the quality improvement initiative they have not received after the evaluation period is over.

### What are the possible benefits and risks of participating?

The potential benefit for participating Trusts is the prospect of improved care and costs. These are a reduction in anaemia related blood transfusions, critical care, length of hospital stay and

readmission rates leading to a potential saving of £160 per patient; and a reduction in surgical site MSSA related infections. Participating trusts are expected to save the NHS £6.3M per year, based on the experience at the Chief Investigator's own Trust. There are no perceived risks to Trusts or the teams from participating Trusts.

Where is the study run from?

This study is being run by Northumbria Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust (UK) and the sites will be added soon.

When is the study starting and how long is it expected to run for?

October 2017 to July 2020

Who is funding the study?

1. NHS Improvement (UK)
2. Northumbria Acute Care Collaboration Vanguard (UK)
3. Vifor Pharma (Switzerland)
4. Schuelke

Who is the main contact?

Mrs Alison Booth (Scientific)  
alison.booth@york.ac.uk

## Contact information

### Type(s)

Scientific

### Contact name

Mrs Alison Booth

### ORCID ID

<https://orcid.org/0000-0001-7138-6295>

### Contact details

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Lower Ground Floor, ARRC Building  
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York  
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alison.booth@york.ac.uk

## Additional identifiers

### Protocol serial number

1.6

# Study information

## Scientific Title

Scaling Up Quality Improvement for Surgical Teams: avoiding surgical site infection and anaemia at the time of surgery a randomised controlled trial

## Acronym

QIST

## Study objectives

Current study hypothesis as of 01/07/2019:

This cluster randomised controlled trial aims to assess whether Breakthrough Series Collaborative is able to deliver fast meaningful change with complex interventions across the UK NHS.

Previous study hypothesis:

This cluster randomised controlled trial aims to assess whether Institute for Health Improvement (IHI) Breakthrough Series Collaboratives are able to deliver fast meaningful change with complex interventions across the UK NHS.

## Ethics approval required

Old ethics approval format

## Ethics approval(s)

This study does not require research ethics approval as it does not involve patients or access to identifiable patient data. This has been confirmed with the Health Research Authority, their Confidential Advisory Group and the University of York Department of Health Sciences Research Governance Group. ref: SRGC/2018/256/D

## Study design

Cluster randomised controlled trial

## Primary study design

Interventional

## Study type(s)

Other

## Health condition(s) or problem(s) studied

Healthcare service delivery

## Interventions

Current interventions as of 01/07/2019:

The study intervention is a Breakthrough Series Collaborative model. A Collaborative is a short-term learning system that brings together a large number of teams to seek improvement in a focused topic area and proven intervention. Collaboratives provide a suitable vehicle for delivery of a project at this scale, as they not only aim to maximise local engagement and leadership but are designed to build capacity, enable learning and prepare for sustainability.

Each participating NHS Trust is treated as a cluster, and are randomised 1:1 using minimisation by number of hip and knee replacement procedures performed and the traffic light indicators in the Learning From Mistakes league table.

Trusts in both arms in the trial receive the intervention, i.e. training in the Collaborative. Trusts are randomised to receive either training on MSSA to control post-surgery infection (20 hospitals) or training on the anaemia optimisation programme (20 hospitals). None of the participating Trusts will have implemented either protocol prior to acceptance into the trial. Therefore, the control group for the anaemia optimisation quality improvement initiative are the other 20 hospitals who continue with their usual practice for anaemia and vice versa, the control group for MSSA are the other 20 hospitals who will continue with their usual practice for MSSA screening.

Hospitals are given the opportunity to be trained in the quality improvement initiative they have not received after the evaluation period is over.

The Trusts are involved in the training programme from May 2018 to October 2019, a total of 18 months. The evaluation period extends to April 2020.

Previous interventions:

The study intervention is the Institute for Health Improvement (IHI) Breakthrough Series Collaborative model. A Breakthrough Series Collaborative is a short-term learning system that brings together a large number of teams to seek improvement in a focused topic area and proven intervention. Collaboratives provide a suitable vehicle for delivery of a project at this scale, as they not only aim to maximise local engagement and leadership but are designed to build capacity, enable learning and prepare for sustainability.

Each participating NHS Trust is treated as a cluster, and are randomised 1:1 using minimisation by number of hip and knee replacement procedures performed and the traffic light indicators in the Learning From Mistakes league table.

Trusts in both arms in the trial receive the intervention, i.e. training in the Breakthrough Series Collaborative. Trusts are randomised to receive either training on MSSA to control post-surgery infection (20 hospitals) or training on the anaemia optimisation programme (20 hospitals). None of the participating Trusts will have implemented either protocol prior to acceptance into the trial. Therefore, the control group for the anaemia optimisation quality improvement initiative are the other 20 hospitals who continue with their usual practice for anaemia and vice versa, the control group for MSSA are the other 20 hospitals who will continue with their usual practice for MSSA screening.

Hospitals are given the opportunity to be trained in the quality improvement initiative they have not received after the evaluation period is over.

The Trusts are involved in the training programme from May 2018 to October 2019, a total of 18 months. The evaluation period extends to January 2020.

## **Intervention Type**

Behavioural

## **Primary outcome(s)**

Current primary outcome measures as of 01/07/2019:

1. Anaemia is measured using the Blood transfusion within 7 days following surgery
2. Deep infection is measured using the Public Health England and Centre for Disease Control and Prevention definition, both at 90 days post-surgery.

Previous primary outcome measures:

1. Anaemia is measured using the Blood transfusion within 7 days following surgery
2. Deep infection is measured using Centre for Disease Control and Prevention definition at 90 days post-surgery

### **Key secondary outcome(s)**

Current secondary outcome measures as of 01/07/2019:

1. Patient-level outcomes are measured using:
  - 1.1. Superficial infection up to 30 days post-surgery, and name of pathogen (if known)
  - 1.2. Length of hospital stay in days (number of midnights spent in hospital)
  - 1.3. Re-admission within 30 days of discharge
  - 1.4. Critical care admission within 30 days of surgery (regardless of previous discharge)
  - 1.5. Number of days spent in critical care within 30 days of surgery (number of midnights spent in the unit)
2. Process measured for QIST infection are:
  - 2.1. Date patient screened for MSSA
  - 2.2. Results
  - 2.3. Date decolonising pack dispensed
  - 2.4. Confirmation used by the patient: Yes/No/Not recorded
3. Process measures for QIST Anaemia are
  - 3.1. Date patient screened for anaemia
  - 3.2. Date pre-op treatment for anaemia given
  - 3.3. Pre-operative blood results:
    - 3.3.1. Hb <11.5
    - 3.3.2. Ferritin >50
  - 3.4. Was iron indicated: Yes/No/Not recorded
  - 3.5. Was iron given to the patient: Yes/No/Not recorded

Aggregated baseline data will be extracted for the 12 months prior to the commencement of the trial. Individual patient data will be extracted monthly from one month after commencement of the trial to feed into the delivery of the intervention. Final data collection point will be one year and four months after start of data collection.

Previous secondary outcome measures:

1. Patient-level outcomes are measured using:
  - 1.1. Superficial infection up to 90 days post-surgery, and name of pathogen (if known)
  - 1.2. Length of hospital stay in days (number of midnights spent in hospital)
  - 1.3. Re-admission within 30 days of discharge
  - 1.4. Critical care admission within 30 days of surgery (regardless of previous discharge)
  - 1.5. Number of days spent in critical care within 30 days of surgery (number of midnights spent in the unit)
2. Process measured for QIST infection are:
  - 2.1. Date patient screened for MSSA
  - 2.2. Results
  - 2.3. Date decolonising pack dispensed
  - 2.4. Confirmation used by the patient: Yes/No/Not recorded
3. Process measures for QIST Anaemia are measured:

- 3.1. Date patient screened for anaemia
- 3.2. Date pre-op treatment for anaemia given
- 3.3. Pre-operative blood results:
  - 3.3.1. Hb <11.5
  - 3.3.2. Ferritin >50
- 3.4. Was iron indicated: Yes/No/Not recorded
- 3.5. Was iron given to the patient: Yes/No/Not recorded

Aggregated baseline data will be extracted for the 12 months prior to the commencement of the trial. Individual patient data will be extracted monthly from one month after commencement of the trial to feed into the delivery of the intervention. Final data collection point will be three months after completion of the training.

**Completion date**

31/07/2020

## Eligibility

**Key inclusion criteria**

- 1. NHS Acute Trust
- 2. Commitment from Trust Executive that consent to participate will be provided if Trust is recruited

**Participant type(s)**

Other

**Healthy volunteers allowed**

No

**Age group**

Other

**Sex**

All

**Total final enrolment**

41

**Key exclusion criteria**

- 1. Quality improvement initiative for screening and pre-operative treatment of anaemia and/or screening for and decolonisation of MSSA already in routine practice for orthopaedic surgical patients.

**Date of first enrolment**

06/03/2018

**Date of final enrolment**

08/05/2018

## Locations

**Countries of recruitment**

United Kingdom

England

**Study participating centre**

**Aintree University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust**

Liverpool

United Kingdom

L9 7AL

**Study participating centre**

**Barking, Havering & Redbridge University Hospitals NHS Trust**

Romford

United Kingdom

RM7 0AG

**Study participating centre**

**Barts Health NHS Trust**

London

United Kingdom

E1 2ES

**Study participating centre**

**Basildon and Thurrock Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust**

Basildon

United Kingdom

SS16 5NL

**Study participating centre**

**Bradford Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust**

Bradford

United Kingdom

BD9 6RJ

**Study participating centre**

**Calderdale and Huddersfield NHS Foundation Trust**  
Huddersfield  
United Kingdom  
HX3 0PW

**Study participating centre**  
**Cambridge University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust**  
Cambridge  
United Kingdom  
CB2 0QQ

**Study participating centre**  
**Chelsea & Westminster Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust**  
London  
United Kingdom  
SW10 9NH

**Study participating centre**  
**Derby Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust**  
Derby  
United Kingdom  
DE22 3NE

**Study participating centre**  
**Doncaster & Bassetlaw Hospitals NHS Trust**  
Doncaster  
United Kingdom  
DN2 5LT

**Study participating centre**  
**Dorset County Hospital NHS Foundation Trust**  
Dorchester  
United Kingdom  
DT1 2JY

**Study participating centre**

**East and North Hertfordshire NHS Trust**

Stevenage  
United Kingdom  
SG1 4AB

**Study participating centre**

**East Lancashire NHS Trust, Blackburn Hospital**

Blackburn  
United Kingdom  
BB2 3HH

**Study participating centre**

**East Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust**

St. Leonards-on-Sea  
United Kingdom  
TN37 7PT

**Study participating centre**

**Epsom & St Helier University Hospitals NHS Trust**

Carshalton  
United Kingdom  
SM5 1AA

**Study participating centre**

**Gateshead Health NHS Foundation Trust**

Gateshead  
United Kingdom  
NE9 6SX

**Study participating centre**

**Harrogate and District NHS Foundation Trust**

Harrogate  
United Kingdom  
HG2 7SX

**Study participating centre**

**Ipswich Hospital NHS Trust**

Ipswich  
United Kingdom  
IP4 5PD

**Study participating centre**

**Isle of Wight NHS Trust**

Newport  
United Kingdom  
PO30 5TG

**Study participating centre**

**Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust**

Leeds  
United Kingdom  
LS9 7TF

**Study participating centre**

**London North West Healthcare NHS Trust**

Harrow  
United Kingdom  
HA1 3UJ

**Study participating centre**

**Manchester University NHS Foundation Trust**

Manchester  
United Kingdom  
M13 9WL

**Study participating centre**

**Mid Cheshire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust**

Crewe  
United Kingdom  
CW1 4QJ

**Study participating centre**

**Mid Yorkshire Hospitals NHS Trust**  
Wakefield  
United Kingdom  
WF1 4DG

**Study participating centre**  
**Milton Keynes University Hospital NHS Foundation Trust**  
Milton Keynes  
United Kingdom  
MK6 5LD

**Study participating centre**  
**Princess Alexandra Hospital**  
Harlow  
United Kingdom  
CM20 1QX

**Study participating centre**  
**Queen Elizabeth Hospital, King's Lynn NHS Foundation Trust**  
King's Lynn  
United Kingdom  
PE30 4ET

**Study participating centre**  
**Robert Jones and Agnes Hunt Orthopaedic Hospital NHS Trust**  
Oswestry  
United Kingdom  
SY10 7AG

**Study participating centre**  
**Royal Free London NHS Foundation Trust**  
London  
United Kingdom  
NW3 2QG

**Study participating centre**

**Royal Liverpool & Broadgreen University Hospitals NHS Trust**  
Liverpool  
United Kingdom  
L7 8XP

**Study participating centre**  
**Salisbury NHS Foundation Trust**  
Salisbury  
United Kingdom  
SP2 8BJ

**Study participating centre**  
**South Tees Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust**  
Middlesbrough  
United Kingdom  
TS4 3BW

**Study participating centre**  
**Stockport NHS Foundation Trust**  
Stockport  
United Kingdom  
SK2 7JE

**Study participating centre**  
**Surrey & Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust**  
Crawley  
United Kingdom  
RH11 7DH

**Study participating centre**  
**Tameside & Glossop Integrated Care NHS Foundation Trust**  
Ashton-under-Lyne  
United Kingdom  
OL6 9RW

**Study participating centre**

**United Lincolnshire Hospitals NHS Trust**

Lincoln  
United Kingdom  
LN2 5QY

**Study participating centre**

**University Hospital Southampton NHS Foundation Trust**

Southampton  
United Kingdom  
SO16 6YD

**Study participating centre**

**Walsall Healthcare NHS Trust**

Walsall  
United Kingdom  
WS2 9PS

**Study participating centre**

**West Suffolk NHS Foundation Trust**

Bury Saint Edmunds  
United Kingdom  
IP33 2QZ

**Study participating centre**

**Western Sussex Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust**

Worthing  
United Kingdom  
BN11 2DH

**Study participating centre**

**Wrightington, Wigan and Leigh NHS Foundation Trust**

Wigan  
United Kingdom  
WN1 2NN

**Sponsor information**

**Organisation**

Northumbria Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust

**ROR**

<https://ror.org/01gfeyd95>

**Funder(s)****Funder type**

Not defined

**Funder Name**

NHS Improvement

**Funder Name**

Northumbria Acute Care Collaboration Vanguard

**Funder Name**

Vifor Pharma

**Alternative Name(s)**

Vifor Pharma Management Ltd., Vifor Pharma Management AG, Vifor Pharma Management SA, Vifor Pharma Ltd.

**Funding Body Type**

Private sector organisation

**Funding Body Subtype**

For-profit companies (industry)

**Location**

Switzerland

**Funder Name**

Schuelke

**Results and Publications**

Individual participant data (IPD) sharing plan

Requests for trial data for the purposes of secondary analysis should be submitted to the CI Mike Reed at [mike.reed@nhs.uk](mailto:mike.reed@nhs.uk) and will be considered on a case by case basis by the Trial Management Group. Only anonymised data will be provided and will only be available after publication of the main results.

## IPD sharing plan summary

Available on request

### Study outputs

Output type	Details	Date created	Date added	Peer reviewed?	Patient-facing?
<a href="#">Results article</a>		12/03/2022	14/03/2022	Yes	No
<a href="#">Protocol article</a>	protocol	28/02/2020	02/03/2020	Yes	No