UCLPartners Invasive Procedures Safety Network   
*Call for applications*

# **Information for Applicants**

***An opportunity for NHS teams from organisations within the UCLPartners geography to apply to be part of the new Invasive Procedures Safety Network. The aim of the Network is to support organisations to develop and implement Local Safety Standards for Invasive Procedures.***

# **About UCLPartners**

UCLPartners is one of the largest academic health science partnerships in the world, encompassing more than 40 health care providers and universities that together serve a population of 6 million people in London and surrounding areas.

We are a not-for-profit social enterprise and support our partners to collaborate across a number of health and care settings. We share practical and evidence-based solutions as well as methods for building capability and supporting system change.

We support partners to deliver work that will have the most positive impact on the health and wellbeing of patients and the local population. Our work is co-created with involvement from colleagues across the health and care system, including patients; service users; hospital, community, mental health and primary care providers; commissioners; academia; third sector; government and industry.

Read more about us [here](https://uclpartners.com/).

# **Background**

In 2015, NHS England published the National Safety Standards for Invasive Procedures[[1]](#endnote-1) (NatSSIPs), which were created to bring together national and local learning from the analysis of Never Events, Serious Incidents and near misses in a set of recommendations enabling NHS organisations to create their own Local Safety Standards for Invasive Procedures (LocSSIPs) and provide safer care to their patients. This required all healthcare providers that delivered NHS funded care to adhere to the safety standards contained within the NatSSIPs when performing any invasive procedures. LocSSIPs are locally developed standards, based on NatSSIPs, that ensure a consistent approach to the care of patients undergoing invasive procedures. They apply to a particular clinical situation and are tailored to each trust, taking into account human factors and teamworking.

According to the 2018 NatSSIPs survey[[2]](#endnote-2) conducted by NHS Improvement and a recent CQC report on NHS safety culture[[3]](#endnote-3), the existence and implementation of the LocSSIPs has been inconsistent and challenging. They found that the main barriers to embedding important safety guidance, including LocSSIPs, are lack of time and staff not having protected time to do this work; lack of opportunities for multidisciplinary training; increasing focus on productivity and targets which can conflict with processes designed to ensure safety; not seeing this as priority and lack of internal expertise as well as understanding of which areas / procedures qualify for LocSSIPs and whether this is at a trust or site level. These challenges are evident in trusts rated as inadequate or requires improvement as well as those rated as outstanding.

UCLPartners is now looking to bring together organisations within the UCLPartners geography to support the effective implementation of LocSSIPs and improvement of associated processes that will result in reductions in serious incidents and never events associated with invasive procedures.

# **About the Network**

UCLPartners is looking to initially establish a network of NHS trusts to support them to develop and implement their LocSSIPs and encourage the sharing of best practice in provision of care for patients undergoing invasive procedures. UCLPartners has appointed the clinical lead to support the work over the next 10 months. The network activities will be co-produced with the network members and will offer education, peer support, expert speakers as well as tailored QI coaching to support the teams to develop and effectively implement their LocSSIPs. We will use the network approach to build expertise in undertaking this work to support further spread.

As part of the network, teams will explore their current safety culture, review existing policies and develop their LocSSIPs, identify areas for improvement and start to implement the changes.

### What does the network involve?

The Network will initially run from June 2019 to April 2020, with the potential to run beyond this period and with additional organisations joining. During this time participating teams will benefit from:

* A launch event to introduce the network, share challenges and identify the support that would be valuable to participating teams
* Four learning sessions, with content delivered by safety experts, plus time for developing your improvement project and networking
* Training on relevant topics delivered as part of the learning sessions (e.g. human factors, QI, communications approaches, checklist culture)
* Bespoke QI and associated measurement support for the local improvement projects
* Reviewing organisational safety culture through use of a safety climate assessment tool / psychological safety score, pre and post joining the network
* Access to resources to support education and development of LocSSIPs (e.g. checklists, handbook)
* Access to network communication tools such as Slack to enable effective sharing of the learning
* Peer review support and a celebration event at the end.

We also have 20 complimentary tickets for the fifth National Perioperative Safety and Quality Conference taking place on **Thursday 16 May 2019**, at the Royal London Hospital. The conference features talks and seminars led by leading clinicians and national organisations, networking opportunities and participation in a safety project competition. This offer is on a first-come-first-serve basis so please get in touch ([valentina.karas@uclpartners.com](mailto:valentina.karas@uclpartners.com)) and express your interest in joining our network to receive a complementary event ticket.

# **Who should apply?**

This programme is designed for trusts in the UCLPartners region who are looking to develop and implement a coherent Invasive Procedures Safety strategy using the NatSSIP/LocSSIP framework. The LocSSIPs are defined and developed with engagement of multidisciplinary front-line teams. Therefore, we expect that the teams taking part in the network will be formed at the site level, but we would welcome multi-site trusts to apply with more than one team. The NatSSIPs supports the trust wide strategy, culture change and education which can be discussed at a network level and then fed back to the wider organisation.

To maximise impact and the benefits of joining the network, we expect the site teams to be multidisciplinary. It is important to include those with operational responsibility for delivery as well as influencers. We recommend forming a site team of approximately 3-5 people to participate in the network, with further support from others within the site as appropriate. We suggest including:

* Lead Clinician / NatSSIP Lead
* Other clinical staff as appropriate (ideally to include medical, surgical and nursing professionals)
* Quality Improvement / Patient Safety Lead
* Governance Lead

# **The commitment**

By joining, you agree to become an active member of the network and have sufficient time and resources to actively participate:

* In four learning sessions over the course of the programme, at a minimum, detailed below
* Time to work together as a team to undertake an improvement project. This work will vary across the sites and should not be under-estimated.
* The support and commitment of an appropriate member of your executive team to support your participation and contribution to the network.

Learning session dates:

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| Session 1 - Launch | Thursday 6 June 2019 | 10am – 2pm |
| Session 2 | Wednesday 17 July 2019 | 10am – 4pm |
| Session 3 | Thursday 12 September 2019 | 10am – 4pm |
| Session 4 | Thursday 21 November 2019 | 10am – 4pm |
| Session 5 – Peer review | Thursday 23 January 2020 | 10am – 4pm |
| Session 6 - Celebration | Wednesday 1 April 2020 | 10am – 2pm |

Willingness to share learning and to support others**:**

* Share both successes and challenges of the work you have been involved in through learning sessions, communication activities or by publishing work
* Be open to have honest conversations about never events and other safety issues
* Contribute to networking and communications activities associated with the network
* Actively support other teams in their learning and application of learning
* Contribute to the development of resources and evaluation of the network where appropriate (responding to surveys and/or participating in interviews or group discussions and providing a description and/or publication of the impact that the network has had on you and your work).

# **Application process**

Acceptance on to the network will be through a two-step process:

1. Complete the [application form](https://uclpartners.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/04/Invasive-Procedures-Net_Application-Form_FINAL.docx) and submit to [valentina.karas@uclparners.com](mailto:valentina.karas@uclparners.com%20) by the **closing date of 5pm on Wednesday, 1 May 2019**. We will not be able to accept late applications and will only accept your first submission, so please ensure it is complete.
2. Telephone interviews with the proposed trust team will take place between **12-5pm on Thursday, 9 May 2019**. Please ensure key team members are available on the day. Further details of what to expect at interview will be provided if you are selected.

*Please note that we reserve the right not to hold interviews should the quality of applications allow for effective selection.*

## Key dates

* Application deadline: **5pm on Wednesday, 1 May 2019**
* Notification of shortlisting: **Friday, 3 May 2019**
* Interviews: **Thursday, 9 May 2019**
* Notification of selection: **Friday, 10 May 2019**
* 5TH National Perioperative Safety and Quality conference: **Thursday, 16 May 2019**
* Launch event: **Thursday, 6 June 2019**

### Further information

If you would like to discuss this opportunity before submitting an application, please contact Valentina Karas, Patient Safety Programme Manager at UCLPartners at [valentina.karas@uclpartners.com](mailto:valentina.karas@uclpartners.com)

1. ### References

   NHS England, [*National safety standards for invasive procedures.* 2015](https://improvement.nhs.uk/documents/923/natssips-safety-standards.pdf). Available at: <https://improvement.nhs.uk/resources/national-safety-standards-invasive-procedures/> [↑](#endnote-ref-1)
2. NHS England, *NatSSIPs Implementation Survey: Full results*. 2018. Available at: <https://improvement.nhs.uk/documents/3206/NatSSIPs_implementation_survey_final.pdf> [↑](#endnote-ref-2)
3. CQC, *Opening the door to change*. 2018. Available at: <https://www.cqc.org.uk/sites/default/files/20181224_openingthedoor_report.pdf> [↑](#endnote-ref-3)