



Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh

Response to NHS Improvement: Consultation on use of resources and well-led assessments

The Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh (“the College”) was founded in 1681. We support and educate doctors in the hospital sector throughout the UK and the world with over 12,000 Fellows and Members in 91 countries, covering 30 medical specialties. 50% of our UK Fellows and Members work in the NHS in England, and we welcome the opportunity to submit views to NHS Improvement on the use of resources and well-led assessments.

The College has the following general observations:

There is currently a feeling amongst Fellows that the current regime of regulation and assessment originates from too many different organisations. A suggestion has been put forward that it may be more productive to separate the assessment and mentoring / supportive roles, for example, allowing CQC to undertake the assessment and NHSi to undertake the mentoring and support.

The experience of our Fellows is that each Trust inputs, stores, and outputs clinical operational data in different ways, using different systems. This sometimes leads to inaccuracies and so efficiency and resource calculations based on this data need to be approached with caution.

Some of the ratings and assessments suggested require significant simplification and explanation for many staff and proportions of the public to be able to relate to. The matrix proposed is viewed as less straightforward than that of CQC.