

The Pathway

Map of Medicine now available without username and password

National pathways are now accessible quickly and more easily, without having to remember a username and password. Login-free access is delivering information to clinicians at their fingertips, allowing them to choose what is right for their patients.

The Map delivers best practice pathways that represent an ideal approach to care from a clinical perspective, incorporating evidence-based information, expert knowledge and national policy.

The easy to use, web-based solution also means that the Map is immediately accessible from search results within NHS Evidence. NHS Evidence provides free access to clinical and non-clinical information that demonstrates what high quality care looks like and how to deliver it.

Healthcare communities use Map of Medicine pathways as a starting point for clinically-led service improvement, adapting them to

reflect service redesign decisions made to meet local challenges. Locally-adapted pathways on the Map are visible across organisations, allowing innovation to be shared quickly. By logging in, clinicians in England and Wales can access locally-adapted pathways, as well as personalisation features and local referral information.

More than 50 healthcare communities are now using the Map to achieve an improved patient experience, reduced hospital admissions and lowered waiting times, whilst reducing delivery costs.

Login-free access to England and Wales national pathways is available via www.mapofmedicine.com/england.



Dr Mike Stein
Medical Director

Dear Colleague

2010 has got off to a flying start with the news that Map is now accessible without a username and password at www.mapofmedicine.com/england. This important development makes it quicker for clinicians to access the Map.

In addition, the Map is now accessible on the Isle of Man with an initial focus on adapting three pathways; heart failure, diabetes and lower back pain. Diabetes has also been one of two case studies published this month on how the Map is being used in Newham, East London. Their new Anticoagulation pathway improved access to clinics for patients and is estimated to save up to £500,000 in 2010/11.

And finally, an important addition has been made to the 40 Map pathways that contain a surgical element. Users are prompted to consult the World Health Organisation's (WHO) Surgical Safety Checklist at key points in the care pathway, increasing visibility of the initiative to clinicians and those involved in using the pathways for service design.

All best wishes

Dr Mike Stein

In this issue

Pathways now directly accessible

Pursuing excellence: doing the hard things

WHO Surgical Safety Checklist

Medway develops Depression Pathway

'Focus on' National Pathways for Wales

The Map extends access to Isle of Man

WHO Surgical Safety Checklist incorporated into Map pathways

All 40 pathways within the Map of Medicine which contain a surgical element, now prompt users to consult the World Health Organisation's (WHO) Surgical Safety Checklist at key points in the care pathway.

The WHO Surgical Safety Checklist is the focus of WHO's Second Global Patient Safety Challenge: Safe Surgery Saves Lives, which was launched in June 2008 to improve the safety of surgical care. The checklist identifies three phases of an operation, each corresponding to a specific period in the normal flow of work.

The UK's National Patient Safety Agency (NPSA) has been working with WHO, the Royal College of Surgeons and others to implement the Surgical Safety Checklist throughout the NHS by February 2010.

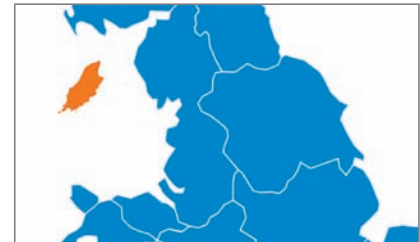
Integration with the Map of Medicine enables easy access to the WHO and NPSA versions of the checklist, and increases the visibility of the initiative to clinicians, and those involved in service design.

Research indicates that use of the checklist increases adherence to patient safety standards of care, resulting in a substantial reduction in complications and deaths.



Map of Medicine access extended to Isle of Man

Map of Medicine is now accessible from various health care locations in the Isle of Man, thanks to a new contract with System C Healthcare and the Department of Health and Social Security (DHSS).



The Map is available on the Island as part of the Community Care Support Services (CCSS) scheme, which ultimately will provide a single health and social care record for all Manx citizens. CCSS will allow relevant carers in primary care, hospital or social services, secure access to certain information and records to assist in the delivery of care.

As part of CCSS, the Isle of Man has initially focused on adapting three pathways; heart failure, diabetes and lower back pain. Later this year, as CCSS is completed, access to the Map will be extended to several social care facilities and further pathways added.

Courtyard now accredited as Map of Medicine Partner

Courtyard Group UK, a healthcare transformation company which enables its clients to achieve sustainable outcomes, is now an accredited partner of Map of Medicine.

By using Map care pathways as a starting point for clinically-led service improvement, healthcare communities can redesign services to meet the additional demands they face. Communities find that the pathways are an ideal approach to care from a clinical

perspective, incorporating evidence based information, national policy and expert knowledge.

Courtyard will leverage the Map of Medicine Adoption Framework, which combines the need to deal with broader organisational issues with the desire to deliver specific benefits. By bringing together

disparate groups, a common framework is used to design pathways to address specific challenges.

The Map is already being used to deliver improved patient outcomes and lower healthcare delivery costs in more than 50 local healthcare communities. By accrediting Courtyard as a partner in the UK, more healthcare communities will soon be able to benefit from using the Map for clinically-led service improvement.



Pursuing excellence: doing the hard things

There are two kinds of knowledge: we know a subject ourselves, or we know where we can find information about it [1]. In creating pathways, Map of Medicine brings together these types of knowledge: the expertise of experienced clinicians and the information embodied in relevant evidence produced by hundreds of organisations.

Map of Medicine's search and assessment of the literature focuses on the entire care journey, and identifies relevant, high-quality guidelines, systematic reviews and meta-analyses. In the near future economic evaluations will also be considered for inclusion.

Maintaining a high level of prescience for several hundred pathways is no easy task, but Map of Medicine has established

systems and processes to achieve this.

Guidelines are identified by systematically searching producers from the UK, Europe, North America and Australasia. Each producer is quality checked using the Appraisal of Guidelines Research and Evaluation (AGREE) instrument [2].

Searches designed to retrieve systematic reviews and meta-analyses are conducted across biomedical databases containing millions of citations from thousands of journals. These searches are executed every month, with results undergoing rapid review to identify any evidence that can inform change to a pathway. Further searches are executed to ensure Map of Medicine keeps abreast of vital safety information.

Each year close to 3,000 searches will be executed to ensure Map of Medicine's

pathways are informed by the most clinically relevant guidelines, systematic reviews and meta-analyses.

And the result? Map of Medicine's pathways remain relevant in an evolving healthcare environment, and so can effectively contribute towards improving patient care and service design.

Samuel Johnson claimed that achieving excellence isn't easy. Map of Medicine is committed to doing things the right way – no matter how hard it proves – because that's the only way we can truly empower you to improve healthcare.

[1] Boswell J. *The Life of Samuel Johnson*. London: Charles Dilly, 1791.

[2] The AGREE Collaboration. *Appraisal of Guidelines for Research & Evaluation (AGREE) Instrument*. www.agreecollaboration.org

Latest clinical stakeholder accreditations

Healthcare pathways cannot be solely derived from published evidence, particularly in areas of diagnosis and prognosis where high-quality information is especially sparse. Evidence-based pathways can be optimised for clinical use by working alongside those with front-line clinical experience.

Map of Medicine works with clinical stakeholders such as Royal Colleges or clinical societies to gather practice-based knowledge for its pathways. The pathways are peer-reviewed and accredited by the same organisation.

More than 60 pathways on the Map have now been accredited by the Royal College of Physicians (RCP).



The RCP aims to improve the quality of patient care by continually raising medical standards. With over 20,000 members, the RCP reviews and assesses general medicine pathways within the Map which are

accredited by the Joint Specialist Committees.

Over the past two years, the RCP and the Map have together developed robust, clinically appropriate pathways, improving quality of the delivery of care.

The British Menopause Society and Royal College of General Practitioners have also recently accredited the Menopause pathway.

By working with clinical stakeholders, the Map is providing locally-relevant evidence-based clinical information at the point of care.

Map of Medicine Handy Hints

Did you know?

You can view information about new and updated pathways by clicking on the New & Updated link on the homepage.

It highlights the pathways that have been added or updated to the Map of Medicine for the local view, England & Wales view, and the International view.

Medway works across communities to develop a depression pathway


Demonstrating how a local healthcare community can work across multiple care settings, Medway LHC has worked with all stakeholders, including primary care providers, secondary mental health providers Kent and Medway NHS and Social Care Partnership Trust; service users and carers in order to redesign their depression pathway.

No other health condition matches mental ill health in its prevalence, persistence and breadth of impact. It is estimated that one in four people will experience some kind of mental health problem in the course of a year.



Launched on the Map in December 2009, the pathway aims to reduce the number of emergency referrals to secondary care services via A&E, clarify the referral process and ensure that people are appropriately referred to secondary mental health services. Initially implemented in Medway, it will be rolled out across the whole of Kent, reducing the time and resources needed by other organisations in developing similar pathways.

New & Updated

This Map of Medicine is under continual review and will be updated regularly.
Last updated: 10-Feb-2010 

'Focus on' national pathways for Wales

NHS Wales is creating national care pathways in Ear, Nose and Throat, Ophthalmology and Orthopaedics. The first to be launched on the Map of Medicine is a national Sore Throat Pathway for Adults and Children, aimed at helping manage patients in the community and standardising the referral criteria into secondary care.



Agreed by clinicians from across Wales, the pathway will improve the consistency of care for patients. The Map is instrumental in disseminating the pathways across Wales. Each Health Board has their own view of the Map, and access is free at the point of use. There is already a national pathway on Chronic Kidney Disease, which has delivered significant improvements in the quality of referrals and number of referrals containing adequate information.

The National 'Focus on' programme supports the delivery of high quality patient pathways, one aspect of which is timeliness of access. Each of these clinically led programmes is planned to deliver at least three transformed pathways reflecting good clinical practice and focused on enhancing patient experience.

Meet us at

The 6th Annual World Healthcare Congress Europe
19-20 May 2010
Brussels, Belgium

Integrated Care Pathways 2010
23 - 24 June 2010
Cavendish Conference Centre, London

NHS Confederation Annual Conference
23 - 25 June 2010
ACC Liverpool

Contact us

UK
Tel: +44 (0)20 7492 6300
info@mapofmedicine.com
Australia
Tel: +61 (0)7 3303 8711
au.info@mapofmedicine.com

Subscribe

To subscribe to **The Pathway** newsletter, email your details to newsletter@mapofmedicine.com