

Costing conference 2024

17 April 2024 Manchester

The Institute's annual costing conference provides the NHS with the latest developments and guidance in NHS costing, as well as increasing awareness of the collaborative approach needed to truly harness the power of data. The day will include interactive workshops, case study examples and policy updates.

This is a must-attend conference for those looking for support to meet costing requirements. The day is aimed at healthcare costing professionals and those not in a costing role but with an interest in the costing agenda.

09:30 Registration, exhibition and networking

10:00 Chair's welcome

Susan Rollason, chief finance officer, University Hospitals Coventry and Warwickshire NHS Trust

10:05 National update

May Li, director of efficiency, NHS England

This session will begin by looking at how efficiency and productivity are defined within the context of the NHS, exploring the current drivers and barriers of productivity. This includes a look at cost drivers as well as hospital flow, clinical and workforce productivity. There will also be an update on costing and how this will be linked into the national efficiency programme in the future.

10:30 Q&A

10:40 Health expenditure benchmarking

Daniel Clark, senior costing lead, NHS England

Health Expenditure Benchmarking (HEB) was developed as a successor to Programme Budgeting (PB), which was collected to help support and promote clinically led commissioning and patient involvement. It also provided financial information across disease areas known as programme categories. HEB was developed to provide a methodology to collect the relevant data without creating an added burden of costing and submission directly on commissioners, and indirectly on providers. This session will present the development and progress of HEB, what data is currently available, and will finish with its challenges and what trusts can do to help improve the HEB tool in the future.

11:05 Q&A

11:15 Break, exhibition and networking

11:40 Collaborative costing – delivering system-level PLICS

Loie McNeil, senior finance manager – costing and service improvement & Shakira Joynson, costing accountant, Blackpool Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, Feroz Patel, recovery and transformation finance director, NHS Lancashire and South Cumbria Integrated Care Board

The costing teams in the Lancashire and South Cumbria integrated care system teams have developed a single patient-level cost information source providing detailed insight into financial and non-financial metrics for organisations across the system. The approach, devised by individual costing teams, provides system-level benchmarking data more frequently and quickly than annual national data. The data is also more granular, allowing the system to drill deeper into cost drivers.

In this session, the presenters will give an overview of the approach, share details of the impact the work is having and give advice on how to adopt a similar approach in your own systems.

12:10 Q&A

12:20 Lunch, exhibition and networking

13:10 Workshops (list of workshop sessions below)

You will be able to choose one of the workshop sessions from the list below.

14:00 Break, exhibition and networking

- 14:20 Health inequalities and costing panel discussion session**
Nigel Gloudon, associate director of finance and performance, NHS Cheshire and Merseyside Integrated Care Board, Natasha Minchell, divisional finance manager, South Tyneside and Sunderland NHS Foundation Trust and Gareth Jones, costing development manager, Manchester University NHS Foundation Trust
- This session will share details of work that is taking place already and also explore the opportunities and challenges as this work develops. Each panel member talk about work that is going on in their organisation and this will be followed by a chaired discussion to explore the issues and benefits in more detail.
- 14:55 Using change management techniques to improve engagement**
Jo Stanford, chief executive officer, Healthcare Project and Change Association (HPCA)
- This session will explain practical strategies and techniques for managing change and creating a culture of engagement. Jo will discuss the importance of clear communication, proactive leadership, and stakeholder involvement in navigating transitions smoothly. The session will also include real-world examples highlighting successful change management initiatives that resulted in improved engagement and productivity. Additionally, attendees will learn about tools based on neuroscience to mitigate resistance to change. Attendees will come away with valuable insights and actionable takeaways looking to enhance engagement levels within their organisation.
- 15:25 Q&A and Chair's closing remarks**
- 15:35 Exhibition and networking**
- 16:00 Close**

Workshop sessions - Delegates will be able to attend one from the following list.

Workshop A – Collaboration to harness the power of data – the Manchester University NHS Foundation Trust experience
Barbara Rimmington, head of purchasing, Manchester University NHS Foundation Trust (MFT) and Ann Cole, head of market access, Baxter Healthcare Limited
Session kindly sponsored by Baxter Healthcare Limited

This session will explore case studies of how the collaboration between clinical, procurement, costing and coding staff at MFT in partnership with Baxter Healthcare Limited has demonstrated improved outcomes across a range of surgical pathways including released capacity and improved patient experience. In July 2020, MFT and Baxter signed a long-term value based agreement focused on improving patient outcomes and creating financial efficiencies through redesigning surgical pathways. This first of its kind partnership brings together the clinical expertise of the Trust with the product and technology expertise of Baxter to codevelop a partnership to deliver improved outcomes for the population of Manchester. From 2020 to date, the teams have work together across a range of surgical pathways to deliver improved outcomes which will be shared as case studies during the workshop.

Workshop B – Presenting mental health data using dashboards
Clare Jacklin, senior costing accountant, Humber Teaching NHS Foundation Trust, Richard Norman, senior finance manager – income and costing and Kalina Ligmanowska, data warehouse developer, Rotherham, Doncaster and South Humber NHS Foundation Trust

Costing teams often need a method to visualise large quantities of data to support reviewing patient allocations and to better respond to queries from colleagues. Dashboards have become a frequently used tool to assist with improving data quality and to allow more detailed conversations with clinicians and other data providers. In this session, two mental health trusts will share details of their dashboard development. This will be followed by a discussion and Q&A session exploring the best ways to visualise mental health data, how dashboards can support engagement and the positive impact this approach can have on patient care and data quality.

Workshop C – Prioritising health outcomes using the resources available with the EVO framework
Richard Sawyer, senior programme manager, One NHS Finance

The Engagement Value Outcome (EVO) framework has been designed to help teams improve patient care by supporting evidence driven value-based decisions at the specialty/service level. The focus is firmly on prioritising the health outcomes for patients using the resources available. By bridging the divide between quality and cost improvement, this approach encourages dialogue and empowers diverse teams to make decisions and measure improvement using value. Using the EVO handbook Trusts existing operational, clinical, project, improvement and finance staff work together to evidence the need for change and implement improvements in three services simultaneously over a 20 week period. In this session, Richard will give an overview of the framework and share details of the impact on both outcomes and resources. The session will also include a Q&A session to allow attendees to ask questions about the process and requirements.

Workshop D – ‘Do you come here often?’ – a costing perspective on A&E frequent attenders
Sarah Cooper, lead cost accountant & Heather Johnson, costing & income projects analyst, North Cumbria Integrated Care NHS Foundation Trust
Session kindly sponsored by Civica

A&E departments have been under tremendous pressure over the last few years with many headlines in the press nationally- longer waiting times, pressured staff, recruitment issues and the impact on patient flow. The costing team at NCIC decided it was time to help this service so a project was started to understand, review and identify opportunities to improve service line performance. The project involved setting-up a multi-disciplinary team, starting conversations across the Cumbria healthcare patch and sharing lessons learnt in other topic areas for the Trust. In this session, the presenters will share their journey as they believe, this is something all Trusts should review.