

## PLICS toolkit for community services

**Costing has a major role to play in supporting the delivery of sustainable services across the NHS. It should underpin decision-making, ensuring local decisions are informed by a clear understanding of current costs and the likely costs of new ways of working.**

Good cost and activity data at the patient level can help health economies to understand variations in care between different patients, helping to optimise service delivery. The development of new models of care, with an emphasis on keeping people out of acute hospitals, requires robust cost and activity information on community services so that the impact of changes to services can be measured. The implementation of patient-level information and costing systems (PLICS) is at an early stage in community services, but there is evidence that some trusts are using PLICS data in creative ways to generate some powerful information.

The HFMA Healthcare Costing for Value Institute has developed this PLICS toolkit to support members turn the data generated by PLICS into useful intelligence. It is hoped that by sharing the toolkit examples with other staff within their organisation, members can sell the benefits of PLICS to those who are currently less well engaged. We hope that you will find our PLICS toolkit for community services will help you start to explore how you can maximise the value of PLICS data within your organisation, and across systems

### Why is PLICS important?

In the current financial climate of the NHS, patient- level cost and information (PLICS) can play a vital role in improving the efficiency and effectiveness of how patient care is delivered. PLICS is not solely about cost information. It brings together information about the resources consumed by individual patients and combines this with the cost of this resource. This type of blended financial information is new for many organisations and is incredibly powerful.

PLICS allows organisations to identify variation between different groups of patients, or between clinical teams. When PLICS is analysed alongside other performance, quality and outcome information it becomes even more powerful in understanding the delivery and performance of services and driving value.

**The Healthcare Costing for Value Institute supports members to turn the theory of value into practice. The full case study is only available to members of the Healthcare Costing for Value Institute and can be accessed from resources.**

For non-members, if you are interested in joining the institute, please contact:

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