

RCoA Quality Network Regional Leads: Roles and Responsibilities and person specification

The Quality Network strives to support the RCoA in its aims. It was established to support anaesthetists to undertake improvements in their own department, hospital and region. The network shares successes and lessons learned from quality improvement (QI) work, helps fellows and members to develop their QI knowledge and increases their confidence to undertake improvement projects.

This document provides guidance for individuals who represent the RCoA as a Quality Network Regional Lead. By accepting the role, Quality Network Regional Leads agree to the terms laid out below.

1. A Quality Network Regional Lead's principal duty will be to act as an ambassador for QI activities across their region, facilitate local communication and take an overview of local QI activity. This is a non-remunerated position. They will link anaesthetic departments in their area who may be undertaking similar or complementary improvement work and can act as the conduit of information, and a link point between the local Trusts/Health Boards and between local QI leads and the RCoA.
2. They may also be able to help departments in their region share work on RCoA initiatives like ACSA, PQIP or NELA.
3. Quality Network Regional Leads are appointed to represent the RCoA's work in QI. Quality Network Regional Leads will immediately advise the RCoA (qualityimprovement@rcoa.ac.uk) on issues or problems that arise in relation to the following:
 - a. variance to the RCoA's stated position on [QI](#);
 - b. maintenance of standards of anaesthesia practice including conflicts with GPAS recommendations and ACSA standards;
 - c. workforce or service delivery implications;
 - d. observance of the RCoA's role in accordance with its Charter and Ordinances.
4. The time commitment will depend on current network activities region specific requirements.
5. Quality Network Regional Leads are encouraged to join the annual event of the Quality Network; this is most likely to be at the RCoA's headquarters in London. Regrettably the RCoA is unable to cover travel and subsistence costs to attend this in-person event.
6. Quality Network Regional Leads provide consent for their contact details to be shared within the network.
7. Quality Network Regional Leads are not permitted to speak to the media on behalf of the RCoA. Any media enquiries should be directed to comms@rcoa.ac.uk in the first instance (copying in qualityimprovement@rcoa.ac.uk).
8. Quality Network Regional Leads who have questions related to their role should communicate these in the first instance to the Clinical Quality and Research Business Coordinator (qualityimprovement@rcoa.ac.uk) at the earliest opportunity. Where appropriate, concerns will be escalated and Quality Network Regional Leads will be invited to discuss these with the RCoA's QI Lead and Director of Clinical Quality and Research.
9. Quality Network Regional Leads have an obligation to inform the RCoA should their standing with the GMC change. This should be done at the earliest possibility to the QI team qualityimprovement@rcoa.ac.uk

The QI Lead and Director of Clinical Quality and Research may remove any Quality Network Regional Lead from the role who fails to adhere to the terms set out above.

	Person Specification
Educational and professional qualifications and roles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A member in good standing with the RCoA and in good standing with the GMC, currently practicing anaesthesia • Holder of a substantive NHS post, as consultant or SAS grade • Evidence of continuing professional development • QI or measurement methodologies qualification (D)
Knowledge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In depth knowledge of patient safety and QI • Knowledge of local health environment • An understanding of the curriculum requirements in patient safety and QI • Knowledge of using a range of change and improvement models (D)
Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experience of working with other clinicians in supporting evidence-based practice • Hands on experience of leading on quality/safety change processes relating to improvement or innovation • Evidence of working collaboratively and influencing people from a wide range of professional backgrounds (including clinicians and patients) and being effective across organisational boundaries • Experience of patient/user involvement initiatives • Experience of service redesign, change management, service improvement and modernisation techniques (D)
Skills/Abilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Effective leadership and people management skills • Excellent organisational, time management and prioritisation skills • Excellent interpersonal, teambuilding and communication skills (both written and verbal) • Excellent communication skills with an ability to promote discussion and agreement • Ability to play a key role in network development • Committed team worker • An understanding of Microsoft Teams
Values and Behaviours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promotes high standards to consistently improve patient outcomes • Consistently puts patients at the heart of decision making • Works across boundaries, looks for collective success, listens, involves, respects and learns from the contribution of others • Values diversity and difference, operates with integrity and openness • Actively develops themselves and others • Demonstrable commitment to partnership working (D)

(D)=Desirable criteria