

North West Streamlining Success Stories

- **Workstream:** Core: Occupational Health
- **Sub Region:** Overall Programme



Interim Process for sharing Immunisations & Vaccinations implemented rapidly in the North West

What challenges were there?

Trust employees often need inoculations, depending on their role. When staff move trusts, they must show their new employer evidence of the immunisations they've had and the validity period. If staff didn't have the paperwork, blood samples would have to be taken to ascertain their status, which did not contribute to a positive employee experience, often delaying their start date.

What was the aim?

One of the original aims of the North West Streamlining programme was to help: *'All North West trusts to record and accept immunisation & vaccination (imms and vaccs) records in a consistent manner to enable the transfer of the minimum agreed data set for immunisation & vaccinations electronically in ESR'.*

However, it became clear that trusts couldn't achieve this within the life of the programme because most used 3rd party systems to record occupational health data. There wasn't an available interface that was robust enough or suitably cost-efficient to transfer data back into ESR via the Inter Authority Transfer process (IAT).

What was the solution?

In Cheshire & Merseyside, a different approach to transferring imms and vaccs data was being used. Most of the trusts in this sub-region were successfully sharing records via an efficient process which they had all signed up to. When one trust requested inoculation data from another trust, this information was sent via secure email within two working days. This KPI of two working days was upheld by trusts in the area thanks to the shared way of working.

The North West Streamlining team gained agreement from the other trusts across the whole region to adopt the process developed by Cheshire & Merseyside. This interim solution would allow every trust in the North West to share imms and vaccs information outside of ESR, working towards a two (working) day turnaround time.

Timescales for implementation were very tight, but, the streamlining OH groups and representatives really worked to this interim process being implemented safely before the end of the programme.

What has been achieved?

- The North West Streamlining team provided OH representatives with a three-phase implementation plan
- A North West OH escalation list has been collated so trusts know who to contact if information is not received within the two working day KPI
- Trusts have been provided with guidance on information governance and email usage around data transfer
- 36 trusts have agreed to work in this way. This is not a contract but an agreed way of working

Want to find out more?

Please visit the streamlining website <https://www.hee.nhs.uk/our-work/workforce-streamlining>

