Report Supplementary Materials 11 (17-99-85-supp11)

Realist Data Extraction Table 2 Improvements in 'Being Open'/Open Disclosure: What Works and How for Services (Bolded Program Theories Have Been Included in **CMO Configurations) 'BEING OPEN' PATHWAY SITUATION** Indications of Mechanisms (forces, interactions, reasoning and **OUTCOMES for Services** resources) Routine invitation to discuss felt harm prior to discharge or **EVENT IDENTIFICATION** Leads to the development of trauma-Incident uncertain/unfolding during an assessment of reported symptoms¹; standardised informed maternity service¹: Reduces checks on women's experiences embedded across maternity the possibility of litigation by families care pathways¹ and family perspective included in clinical who feel ignored and the loss of vital records and incident analysis² information for patient care² Extension of thresholds of harm ('less' serious incidents)¹³; Enhances view of service areas requiring improvement 13-5 wider interest of improvement leads/committees in 'trigger' incidents⁴ (with possibility of extension of these thresholds over time)⁵ Following 'Being Open' guidance and Regulation 20(Duty of Increases reporting of incidents³; Candour)³⁶ with all reviews including a systematic and critical improves discussions with families⁶; review of care⁷ meets regulatory requirements; meets regulatory requirements³; creates more opportunities to learn from mistakes and substandard care³ ⁷and meets drive to improve maternity safety⁶ Organisation-wide⁸⁹staff training in Being Open Leads to fewer possible repercussions **ONGOING CARE** When the incident has purpose⁹, policy/principles¹⁰, and communication skills⁸ for Trust (aggrieved families)¹⁰; **AFTER EVENT** happened and during workforce competencies are more ongoing maternity care widespread⁸; becomes more likely for disclosure to be enacted in local practice⁸⁹. Disclosure processes will be more **DISCLOSURE PROCESS** Specialist, multi-disciplinary 'event response team' manage Improvement Strategies and processes across service 8 10 and immediate response to trigger consistent/coordinated, there will be Infrastructures events⁸; team selected by peers⁸ clear accountability^{8 10}; leadership

| Concerted and resourced implementation strategy (including policy, guidelines, training, and evaluation of effect) ⁹¹¹ , maximum use of IT ¹² with whole service engagement ⁵ /capacity to integrate patient experience intelligence ⁴ | positions/expertise will be developed ⁸ ; a 'tenants of disclosure model' can be operationalised ⁸ ; duplication likely to be reduced ¹⁰ and advice and standards more likely to be consistent ⁹ Will meet the broad objectives of a pilot ¹¹ ; OD more likely embedded in organisation (not a discretionary activity) ^{5 9 12} ; more effective identification of improvement focus |
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| Comprehensive protocol/guidance (identification, disclosure, | possible ⁴ Meets one condition of programme implementation ⁸ |
| investigation, appropriate resolution) ⁸ Dedicated, senior person to implement disclosure guidance (n Trust ⁴ ; in regional partnerships ¹³) | Ensures clear and consistent leadership for implementation ^{4 13} |
| Gaining and sustaining senior medical 'buy-in' (with responsibilities for implementation and case reporting ⁸) ^{4 9 14} and by local site engagement, (with benefits evidenced to them ⁸ and local services opportunities to adjust protocol to meet their own service conditions ⁸ | Encourages support by senior medical staff (required to promote uptake by colleagues; ⁴⁸ ; reassures junior staff ¹⁴ ; crucial to ongoing practice ⁹ and policy implementation ⁸ |
| Disclosure identified as more than clinical competence and as a service organisational issue about workload, supervision, rapid organisational change ⁹ ; documentation ⁸ ; administration and co-ordination ¹⁴ ; communication/discussion and coordination of protocol and practice across units ⁸) | Embeds organisation-wide practice of openness ⁸⁹ ; reduces burden of disclosure in individual clinicians; and enhances possibility of patient-centred disclosure practice y ⁹ |
| Trusts' prompt referral of/comprehensive information on incident to external body ⁶ | Possibility of reduced litigation (parents get answers and/or assistance more quickly) ⁶ |
| Organisational regulation ¹⁵ with accommodation of differences in organisational maturity (how well systems support practice) ¹⁷ | Enables clear accountability for disclosure ¹⁶ ; but variations across units are expected during early implementation ¹⁷ |

| | Disclosure, apology, and early redress embedded in quality improvement work ¹⁸ | May reduce the need for the regulation of organisations ¹⁸ |
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| | National frameworks/guidance on programmes for all Trusts and services ^{4 13} (including for Board leads; staff skills; protected time; minimum data collection and reporting requirements) ⁴ | Promotes a clear and consistent policy for family engagement and its requirements 4 13 (combining specificity with flexibility) 13 |
| | Education to address gap between disclosure guidelines and clinicians' practice ¹⁹ , including supported space for clinicians and patients to negotiate the practical demands/contradictions of disclosure ⁹ | Effective disclosure becomes part of patient safety programmes ¹⁹ ; and becomes more than 'in principle' agreement ⁹ |
| | Risk management formalised/embedded in improvement work/aspect of cultural change 10 18 committed risk managers identified to embed disclosure protocol in each unit 8 | Incidents of disclosure are likely to increase ¹⁸ ; evidence of impact of disclosure on reduction of incidents will be collected ¹⁰ ; implementation of disclosure will be successful ⁸ . |
| | Staff commitment to disclosure (notably, risk managers ¹⁸ ; senior clinicians ²⁰ ; board and medical director/nominated consultant) with time and resources ⁴ ; consistent communication of commitment ⁸ | Continuity of disclosure practice will be possible 18 20; financial and HR investment in high-quality systems and processes more likely 4 |
| | Established provider service team reporting in Board and Commissioners into the divisions; and 'down' to wards and local forums ¹⁰ | Develops high-quality safety assurance with grassroots identification of risk and improvement implementation ¹⁰ |
| | 'Joined- up' intelligence from reviews/incidents, patient experience, complains and support services by Trust Boards ³ | Enhances insights for safety improvement ³ ; |
| | Adoption/development of legacy interventions (e.g., review tools, training, and engagement methods) ^{4 12 21 22} | Creates a shorter/easier journey to improvement; interventions are more reliable 4 12 21 22 |
| Ethos | Disclosure communication enacted as moral-ethical obligation of clinicians (not an administrative task) ¹⁵ ; enacted in servicewide early response teams to encourage disclosure ⁸ | Embeds disclosure as an aspect of care s in each clinical service 8 15 |

| | Parents central in guidance ^{3 21} and practice development ⁴ | Enhances effectiveness of guidance ³ ²¹ ; strengthens partnerships with families ^{4 21} |
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| | Change in NHS safety culture (with holistic work programme on structure, skills, capacity, and cultural reform) ¹⁷ ; culture change in 'healthcare micro-systems' (over wider systems reform) ¹⁸ | Refocuses SI management from punitive/political process to learning for improvement ¹⁷ (52% of 2017 survey respondents said not yet achieved" ¹⁷); different programs for Trust settlement after incidents possible ¹⁸ |
| | Change in inspection and Board priorities from how investigations conducted and completed (within timeframe) to learning disseminated and embedded ³ | Practice will be valued for learning and improvement (not for meeting short targets) ³ |
| | 'High-level' leadership in promoting 'Just culture ³⁶ ; desire to learn a central organisational value ⁴ (e.g. Provider Boards; Commissioners and Regulators); embedded and consistent culture of openness/candour ⁷¹⁰ | Change more likely to happen within units ^{3 6} when incidents, complaints, and concerns are seen as learning opportunities ¹⁰) ^{4 17} and when serviceuser experience if part of this learning ⁷ |
| Organisation/Unit Legacies | When implementation approaches recognise the different capacities of organisations to drive attitude and practice change so that gradual and uneven change expected in organisations ⁸ and varying degrees of foundational systems and expertise in organisations anticipated ^{417 21} | Differentiated systems for support of staged implementation plans can be developed ^{17 21} |
| | Established success/experience in other family engagement practices ²¹ | Disclosure is more successful ²¹ |
| Governance | Local Maternity Systems ¹³ and Health-Board/Trust buy-in ⁵ (with trained ¹⁷ Executive and non-Executive leading these processes) ²³ ; resourcing available ¹² ; with clear and consistent guidance/standards/processes/tools ³ and time for development of expertise in their application ^{12 21} ; Board-level family advocate ⁴ and minimum standard of training for all Board members ¹⁷ | Consistent disclosure improvements and learning are possible 15 12 23; investigating and learning emphasised 15 17 in time (with variations between services expected) 21; staff implementing family engagement are held to account 1 |

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| Strong governance structures: e.g., review groups, including regular executive reviews ⁴⁵ ; promotion of unit reporting for external benchmarking ¹³ ; monitoring of training effectiveness ⁵ ¹³ and involvement guideline compliance ¹³ ; | Essential for service improvement/learning and acting on lessons ⁴ ; improvement monitoring ¹³ |
| Commissioning that includes: lead for incident reporting and process improvement ³ ; for maternity safety ⁶ ; and commissioners have time and training to quality assure disclosure and investigations ¹³ | More coordinated improvement work ³ ; clarification of accountabilities ¹³ ; family participation more likely to be achieved ¹³ |
| Commissioners' responsibility for investigation reporting/action plans with family involvement ¹³ ; Board-level clarification and resourcing of Candour regulations (and inclusion of parents and staff in investigation processes) ⁶ | Regulation will be met ^{6 13} ; variability of investigations will be reduced ¹³ |
| Inspection bodies include: mortality reviews/investigations ³ ; compliance to family involvement guidelines ¹³ (e.g. to benchmark Trust leadership) | Improvements in national oversight and support for learning from failings; improvements in family involvement in national oversight would improve ^{3 13} |
| Local Maternity Systems, supported by strategic partnership Boards, responsible for improving investigation process (and MVP involvement in it) ¹³ | National recommendations can be co- designed and included in local SI processes ¹³ |
| Royal College clinical leadership and guidance to Trust/service investigators ³ ; professional-led national quality improvement introduced ²³ | Costs of external investigations teams(c£100k per investigation) will be reduced ³ ; national standards and objectives will be established ²³ |
| Value of user-voice already established in organisation/clinical governance (co-production-user forums) ^{4 24} | Reduction in the cultural resistance to involving families in making improvements in reviews/investigation processes ⁴ (however practice of user-involvement will always be more challenging that other aspects of clinical governance, especially where addresses difficult issue of 'poor outcomes') ²⁴ |

| | | Networked governance structures to enhance disclosure practices (e.g. Board-level, Membership Councils, QI Steering Groups; Patient Leads) ^{10 13} ; annual reporting of national bodies to include lay summaries ²³ | More effective learning and engagement for Sis and involvement of families 10 13 23 |
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| Acce | essibility/Availability | Family-centred approach to engagement in reviews and investigations ³ , including information materials noting multiple opportunities to engage ²² ; and staff training in this perspective ²⁴ | Increases satisfaction of families ³ ; family engagement improved ²² , along with care planning and delivery ²⁴ |
| | | Culture that supports meaningful apology for any harm ^{3 10 25} ; explanation of circumstances without blame ²⁵ , including legal protection ¹⁸ | Reduces likelihood of escalation or legal claim ^{3 10 25} NB: [limited potential to reduce malpractice claims by US families with birth-injured infants] ¹⁸ |
| Expl | planations | Comprehensive assessments of care during review ¹³ ; Correspondence in care standard assessments (between services and external bodies) ⁶ | Delays in settlements for families are mitigated ⁶ (possible reduction of costs) ⁶ ; learning from cases for care systems improvements are increased ^{6 13} |
| | | Inclusion of family and carer understandings of events ^{3 16} , with understanding that common understanding of what happened might not be reached ¹⁶ | Increases opportunities for learning from family experience of care across complete care pathway) ^{3 16} ; reduces possibility of ongoing conflict if family listened to ¹⁶ |
| | | Investigations include clinical and legal experts (examining all relevant documents) ⁶ | Investigations can bridge 'claims, safety and learning functions of the organisation' ⁶ |
| | nsistency in Disclosure ocess | Formal, family engagement guidance (shared between services and between external organisations) ^{6 16} (and review tools ²³) co-developed with staff and parent advisors ^{12 22} | Leads to more consistent information; shared resources ¹⁶ ; that are relavent ^{22 23 12} and avoid duplication ⁶ are available to the service |
| Nav | vigation Strategies | Named professional/patient representative or advocate to manage co-ordination of information between parents and clinicians 5 26 | Leads to the provision of crucial infrastructure for improvement of 'Being Open' guidance ⁶ (more information and relational consistency between Trusts and |

| | | | family ²⁶) NB: [unclear if that person should be 'fully independent' of clinical team] ⁵ ²⁶ |
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| DISCLOSURE DURING REVIEWS AND INVESTIGATIONS | When incident review and/or investigation initiated | Investigation Leadership that is expert in family liaison and includes risk management /governance team (not consultant in charge) ^{10 22} | Enhances the reliability and consistency of findings ¹⁰ ; the incorporation of action plans into clinical governance plans d ²² and findings more likely to be underpinned by ethos of candour ⁴ |
| | | Robust review/investigation process including whole care pathway (multi-agency ²⁷ ; cross-department ²² ; multi-discipline ^{21-24 28}); parents' perspective ²² ; external or independent peer-review ^{13 22} , and adequate RCA methodology ¹³ ; | Enhances learning from the incident by more comprehensive for improvement planning 21-23 27; encourages care variation and grading from a multi-disciplinary perspective 22 28, along with the use of 'fresh eyes' to identify systems issues 32 22 3 to identify active and latent failure) 3 and the wider development of cross-sector relationships 4. NB [but 17% reported PMRs 2018-19 completed by 1-2 same discipline clinicians) 22; 1:5 PMRs 2018-19 had external member input 22 |
| | | Planning ³ and training ²⁸ for multi-disciplinary/sector review/investigation (establishing ToR, leadership, expectations of contributions and time-lines reflecting complexity ^{3 22} (and building of cross-sector relationships) ³ ; investigators trained in RCA techniques ³ | Enhances reliability of review/investigation processes and completion in a realistic timeframe ³ 22 28 |
| | | Independent, structured peer-reviews underpinned by just culture approach ¹³ | Reduces risk of 'political highjack'; increases possibilities for the identification of systems-factors in development of action plans ¹³ NB [costs estimated as £2,100 per |

| | | | peer-reviewed case] ¹³ . |
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| OUTCOMES OF DISCLOSURE | System-Wide/QI Resolution | Board and trusts governance teams invested in action | Shared ownership of actions and |
| PROCESS | | planning for post-review improvement ²² | system-level changes more likely ²² |
| | | Focus of national bodies on improvement processes rather than completion deadlines ³ | Reduces focus by Boards on more immediate targets and greater focus on longer-term systematic change ³ |
| | | Integration/standardisation ³ of (internal; external) data | Increases opportunities for national |
| | | collection/surveillance systems11; robust mechanisms to | learning from local reporting ¹¹ ; |
| | | disseminate learning from investigations or benchmarking | possible reduction in repeated |
| | | beyond single Trust ³ (e.g. across local maternity system); | mistakes ³ ; more rapid learning ⁶ ; |
| | | beyond single external bodies ⁶ ; administrative support for Trusts to engage ⁶ | engagement possible ⁶ |
| | | Ongoing review process/audit spirals or cycles ²⁹ | Supports (re)evaluation of |
| | | | recommendations and their |
| | | | implementation ²⁹ |
| | In-Case Resolution | Meeting ongoing care requirements ¹⁶ (including offer of fair compensation, if admission of fault ¹⁸ ; costs payments ^{25 30} ; and informed sign-posting for expert follow-up ¹⁶ | Diffuses anger towards individuals or service and may help to preserve relationship with family 16 18 25 30 |
| | | Trust/employer recognition of duty of care to affected staff ⁶ ; | Leads to the development of joined- |
| | | investment in dedicated joined-up post-incident support ⁶ ; | up and dedicated systems for |
| | | changed perspectives staff HR during investigation (e.g. time off work not a penalty) ¹⁷ | effective post-incident staff support /workforce wellbeing/OH |
| | | work not a penalty) | improvement ⁶ ; staff less |
| | | | traumatised/likely to feel penalised ¹⁷ ; |
| | | | staff more likely to be retained 6 |
| | Wider Social Influences | Professional insurance policies support participation in | Impact/use of disclosure protocols |
| | | disclosure procedures ⁸ | increases (and organisations |
| | | | promotion of disclosure work (and |
| | | | systems/team perspectives on issues |
| | | | for improvement not undermined) ⁸ |
| | | Litigation fear and costs managed ^{8 31} (e.g. protected spaces ³); | More reviews happen ³¹ ; open |
| | | external agency interventions ⁶¹⁸ | communication is more likely |
| | | | (expected to reduce complaint and |
| | | | litigation need ^{3 6 18} ; evidence that |
| | | | decreases malpractice costs ⁸ ; legal |

| | duty not breached ³ |
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| Consumer-perspective on incidents (personal/psychological ¹), disclosure, involvement routinised ¹⁵ | Consumer experience is incorporated into wider patient safety issues ¹⁵ ; 'cultural shift' from bio-medical perspectives on incident ¹¹⁵ |
| Increasing public pressure on policy makers ¹¹ ; costs of clinical negligence claims (connected to marginalisation of families) ⁶ | High-level drivers on organisations to secure disclosure improvements 6 11 |

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