



Anaesthesia Clinical Services Accreditation (ACSA) Accredited Departments

York Teaching Hospitals 
NHS Foundation Trust

York Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust January 2017

Dr Jamie Biddulph quote (ACSA lead):

'ACSA accreditation has been an important goal for York anaesthetic department. Our accreditation is due to the willingness of the whole team to use the ACSA standards as a framework to guide our quest for accreditation. The peer review process was an important step which unearthed issues that we could not detect and guided us on how to make the changes which have had a positive impact on patient safety.'

'It is fantastic that we have accreditation because it recognises the determination of the members of our team to provide a high quality service for our patients. Accreditation now means that the patients will be able to see it too.'

Areas of good practice

Equipment, facilities and staffing

The ACSA RT was pleased with the leadership of anaesthesia from the clinical director and the consultants leading on the ACSA review. There was strong engagement from all involved including admin and theatre staff and personal commitment from the trust CEO who spoke with the ACSA RT. The use of posters was a further indication of the team spirit at York [4.0.8.4].

ACSA visit report (pg 4)

Author: Dr Simon Fletcher

Patient experience

The ACSA RT deemed that the use of pods for patients was very good allowing private consultations to take place. This gave the ability to hold a number of private consultations in what had previously been a single room [3.2.2.1.a] [3.2.2.1b].

ACSA visit report (pg 4)

Author: Dr Simon Fletcher

Clinical governance

The department hold monthly M & M and governance meetings. These are well attended and appear appropriately focussed. There is, however, a need for the dissemination of formal minutes with action points. Datix critical incident reporting is supplemented by a 'yellow flag' informal reporting system, regarded as an indicator of excellent practice. The governance lead appeared motivated and well informed.

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Other areas

The department had prepared very well for the visit and it was clear to the ACSA RT that the level of engagement with the process by both the consultant body and the trainees was high. Attendance at the meetings was very good, and consultants and trainees reported that they had been actively involved in writing policies, guidelines and running quality improvement projects to assist with the accreditation process. The Chief Executive attended one of the classroom sessions and reiterated that the whole trust is behind the process.

ACSA visit report (pg 5)

Author: Dr Simon Fletcher