

Specialist societies and their role in audit

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Purpose

- To show, for specific areas of medical and healthcare practice, information on professional bodies and groups with a role in relation to promoting clinical audit in their specific areas of medicine and healthcare
- List or signpost to national audits or registers in that speciality

Getting help on clinical audit and registers for your area of healthcare or medical practice

The purpose of this table is to help people audit their healthcare practice within their discipline. HQIP's own site provides a range of generic resources on clinical audit, but it does not provide specific support for audits of specialist areas of practice. HQIP believes this is best delivered by specialist bodies. This resource tries to show who these are.

These organisations are typically a Royal College or another specialist professional body; they can be specific disciplines within a broader area, such as the sub-specialities of the RCP, for example, or faculties of the RCS. They can be charities with broad interests covering patients and clinicians; they can be specialist associations for treatment of specific conditions which cross the boundaries of professional disciplines. A website link is given for every organisation cited.

This list is not a complete listing of every single organisation covering every medical or clinical sub-speciality or interest, nor all sub-specialities. Inclusion of an organisation in the left hand column listings does not necessarily imply they are active in clinical audit, but simply a relevant professional body for that area of medicine or healthcare. We have used classifications provided by Royal Colleges for their sub-specialities.

This table also identifies links to those national audits in that specialism, which may be run by the professional body identified here, or as is often the case, by that body working in partnership with others. Although these audits are primarily listed against a single discipline, of course many audits cross boundaries. The most obvious examples of these are listed in several places. There are also a large number of specialist registers in specific areas of practice, which are too numerous to list here. For these databases and registers in the specific area, please consult HQIP's separate database of registers at [HQIP Directory of Registers and Clinical Databases](#).

NICE issues audit support materials related to specific guidelines and suites of guidelines. These are found on the NICE website adjacent to each guideline, at: [NICE Clinical Guidelines](#). We list some of these in the table below.

This table will be regularly updated. We invite comments for revision and addition at all times.

Area of healthcare	Name of professional body	Relevant National Audit or audit pages (where applicable)
<i>Broad areas of medical and healthcare practice</i>		
Blood transfusion	Hospitals and Science Website (Blood and Transfusion)	National Comparative Audit of Blood Transfusion
Cleft Palate	Craniofacial Society of Great Britain and Ireland	The Crane Database
Colo-proctology	The Association of Coloproctology of Great Britain and Ireland	Bowel Cancer Audit
Intensive and Critical Care	The Intensive Care Society	ICNARC - Intensive Care National Audit and Research Centre
Occupational Medicine	Faculty of Occupational Medicine of the Royal College of Physicians The Society for Occupational Medicine	The Health and Work Development Unit - Royal College of Physicians
Oral Medicine	The British Society for Oral Medicine	

Area of healthcare	Name of professional body	Relevant National Audit or audit pages (where applicable)
Pain Management	The British Pain Society	The National Pain Audit National Care of the Dying Audit of Hospitals
Public Health	The UK's Faculty of Public Health	The Health Promotion in Hospitals Audit
Substance Misuse	There is no single professional organisation that covers the range of psychiatric, psychological, nursing or social care provision for this area, although the specialist bodies for these disciplines support work in their discipline. However general advice on audit is supplied by the National Treatment Agency for Substance Misuse and NICE provide audit guides for a variety of relevant guidelines and suites of guidance.	NHS National Treatment Agency for Substance Misuse - Auditing drug misuse treatment - December 2008 and NICE audit tools CG115 Alcohol dependence and harmful alcohol use: audit support CG100 Alcohol-use disorders: physical complications: audit support CG120 Psychosis with coexisting substance misuse: clinical audit tool Misuse of drugs and other substances: audit criteria
Transplant	British Transplantation Society Organ Donation	Potential Donor Audit Centre-specific reports - Cardiothoracic Centre-specific reports - Liver
Vascular health	The Vascular Society of Great Britain and Ireland The Vascular Anaesthesia Society of Great Britain and Ireland Society for Vascular Nursing The Society for Vascular Technology of Great Britain and Ireland	National Vascular Database National Carotid Interventions Audit (Round 2) - HQIP

Area of healthcare	Name of professional body	Relevant National Audit or audit pages (where applicable)
Cardiology	British Cardiovascular Society	See various audits at NICOR - Audits Also see National Cardiac Arrest Audit Familial Hypercholesterolemia Audit Pulmonary Hypertension - NHS The Information Centre National Audit of Cardiac Rehabilitation
Genetic Medicine	Clinical Genetics Society	
Neurophysiology	British Society for Clinical Neurophysiology	
Dermatology	The British Association of Dermatologists	The British Association of Dermatologists - Audits
Endocrinology	Society for Endocrinology Also see Diabetes	Society for Endocrinology - Clinical Research/audit projects
Diabetes	Diabetes UK Association of British Clinical Diabetologists	National Diabetes Audit English National Screening Programme for Diabetic Retinopathy
Gastro-enterology (including hepatology)	British Society of Gastroenterology	Oesophago Gastric - continuation of the audit Inflammatory Bowel Disease Audit

Area of healthcare	Name of professional body	Relevant National Audit or audit pages (where applicable)
Infectious Diseases	British Infection Association For HIV see British HIV Association	British HIV Association 2011 Audit
Sexual Health	British Association for Sexual Health and HIV	The BASHH audit web pages contain information and outputs on the following national audits: care measured against KPIs in the BASHH MEdFASH Standards for STI Management, sexual history taking (including a re-audit), asymptomatic screening for STIs, genital chlamydial infection, the sexual healthcare of people with HIV infection and the management of early syphilis. British Association for Sexual Health and HIV - National Audit Group Also see HIV British Association for HIV - Audit and Clinical Standards
Geriatric medicine	British Geriatrics Society	Many audits cover older people – a selection are available at HQIP Current Audits - Older People
Haematology	British Society for Haematology	

Area of healthcare	Name of professional body	Relevant National Audit or audit pages (where applicable)
Immunology	<p>British Society for Immunology</p> <p>UKPIN UK Primary Immunodeficiency network.</p> <p>Royal College of Pathologists</p> <p>BSACI (British Society for Allergy and Clinical Immunology)</p> <p>RCP (Royal College of Physicians)</p>	<p>The BSI actively promotes clinical audit in Immunology. Audit forms as key part of its Annual Congress. National Clinical Audit is incorporated as part of the “Clinical Parallel Session” and publicises the works of the National immunology Audit Groups (SWCIAG and NECIAG).</p> <p>British Society for Immunology</p> <p>Professional Organisation for Immunodeficiency Centres The UK Primary Immunodeficiency Network (UKPIN)</p> <p>The Royal College of Pathologists offers a scheme for the certification of audits in order to foster high-quality clinical audit projects. The scheme is voluntary and will certify only audits that follow the audit cycle methodology and meet the <u>standards</u> set by the College.</p> <p>The College is also developing a ‘cookbook’ of suitable audit templates. These will be tailored to each specialty and made available on the website. We are selecting 10 examples of audit submitted to the audit certification scheme that represent high cost, high volume and high risk situations. Ideally, pathologists or laboratories undertaking an audit in accordance with such a template would be in a position to compare results as a form of ‘benchmarking’.</p> <p>We will be publishing the audit templates with data entry proformas that pathologists can download and follow in order to undertake a good quality audit.</p> <p>The Royal College of Pathologists</p> <p>Certification of Clinical Audit</p> <p>http://www.rcpath.org/index.asp?PageID=152</p>

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Medical Oncology	The Association of Cancer Physicians The British Association for Head and Neck Oncology	There are various cancer audits – a selection are available at HQIP Current Audits - Cancer NHS Information Centre - Head and Neck
Metabolic medicine	The British Association for Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition	
Neurology	Association of British Neurologists	Parkinson's Disease Parkinson's Audit
Nuclear Medicine	British Nuclear Medicine Society	British Nuclear Medicine Society - Audit and Standards Activities
Paediatric cardiology	British Cardiovascular Society	For congenital heart disease NICOR Audits
Palliative medicine	Association for Palliative Medicine	National Care of the Dying Audit of Hospitals – Royal College of Physicians

Area of healthcare	Name of professional body	Relevant National Audit or audit pages (where applicable)
Pharmaceutical Medicine	Faculty of Pharmaceutical Medicine UK Clinical Pharmacy Association Royal Pharmaceutical Society	<p>The Royal Pharmaceutical Society (RPS) is committed to promoting audit to our members, and supporting our members to conduct high quality audit and quality improvement initiatives. The following is a list of resources we provide to our members and audit-related activities we are currently involved in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Audit templates • Audit information and guidance on website • Links to professional standards • Showcasing of good practice audits • Links of audit results to our Map of Evidence (an RPS initiative to build the evidence base for the profession) • Support of applications to HQIP for funding • Collaborative audits on Medicines Use Reviews and pharmacy alcohol services. <p>Future activities: Refreshing of audit templates to link to new RPS Professional Standards and other quality criteria Promoting good practice via website and encouraging sharing of experience and tools Involvement in further collaborative and/or national audits.</p>
Rehabilitation medicine	British Society of Rehabilitation Medicine	
Renal Medicine	The Renal Association	UK Renal Registry Also see Organ Donation – Centre-specific reports - Liver National Kidney Care Audit

Area of healthcare	Name of professional body	Relevant National Audit or audit pages (where applicable)
Respiratory medicine	<p>British Thoracic Society</p> <p>There are specialist respiratory societies for most specific disciplines, e.g. nursing and primary care</p> <p>The Association of Respiratory Nurse Specialists</p> <p>The Primary Care Respiratory Society UK</p>	<p>The British Thoracic Society has a long tradition of clinical audit, and BTS audits of asthma and COPD date back over the past 15-20 years. The current programme of BTS national respiratory audit was launched in 2009 and includes 8 audit tools: adult and paediatric asthma, adult and paediatric pneumonia, emergency oxygen use, non-invasive ventilation in adults, bronchiectasis, and pleural procedures. These audits are now recommended for inclusion in Quality Accounts. Each audit involves a national audit period for focussed national data collection, followed by additional time for entry of data onto the online system. This provides a national dataset for the audit each year, and participating centres can generate reports which compare their centre's data against the national picture. All audit tools are available outside the national audit period for local use. The Society intends to strengthen the quality improvement focus of the audit programme over the coming months to better support the respiratory community in the provision of quality care for patients with respiratory illness.</p> <p>British Thoracic Society - Audit</p>
Rheumatology	<p>The British Society for Rheumatology</p> <p>British Society for Paediatric and Adolescent Rheumatology</p>	
Sports medicine	<p>Faculty of Sport and Exercise Medicine UK</p>	

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Stroke medicine	Royal College Physicians Clinical Audit	Royal College of Physicians - Stroke Improvement National Audit Programme (SINAP) Royal College of Physicians - National Sentinel Stroke Audit Royal College of Physicians - UK Carotid Interventions Audit
<i>Other Royal Colleges of Medicine</i>		
Anaesthetics	Royal College of Anaesthetists The Association of Anaesthetists of Great Britain and Ireland	Start at Royal College of Anaesthetists website
General Practice	Royal College of General Practitioners	GPs participate in many national audits; notably for diabetes Royal College of General Practitioners - Clinical Audit in Primary Care
Obstetrics and Gynaecology	Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists	The Office for Research and Clinical Audit (ORCA) is a collaboration between the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists and the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine. ORCA works to encourage and support rigorous audit in obstetrics and gynaecology, performed to a high scientific standard. The National Heavy Menstrual Bleeding Audit was funded by HQIP in 2010. Read more on the audit: Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists - audit HQIP Current Audits - Women and Children

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Ophthalmology	Royal College of Ophthalmologists Also see optometry below	
Paediatric medicine	Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health	There are many national audits covering children. Start at HQIP Current Audits - Women and Children Also see the BTS site; and The College of Emergency Medicine Congenital Heart Disease Audit - NHS Information Centre Royal College of Physicians - Inflammatory Bowel Disease Audit Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health - Child Health Review UK
Pathology	Royal College of Pathologists The Association of Clinical Pathologists	Pathology plays a role in several national audits but there is no specific single example.
Psychiatry	Support for audit activity operates through the College centre for quality which runs audits for and with specific faculties and supports local audit amongst psychiatrists The Royal College of Psychiatrists	See Royal College of Psychiatrists website for links to audits of depression, schizophrenia, prescribing, psychological therapies etc. Also see National Confidential Inquiry into Suicide and Homicide by People with Mental Illness (NCISH)

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Radiology	The Royal College of Radiologists British Society for Interventional Radiology British Society of Neuroradiologists	Various available, see The Royal College of Radiologists - Audit at the RCR and British Society for Interventional Radiology
<i>Surgery</i>		
All	Royal College of Surgeons	The college has a specific unit which supports audit Royal College of Surgeons - Clinical Effectiveness Unit
Aesthetic surgery	British Association of Aesthetic Plastic Surgeons British Association of Cosmetic Surgeons British Association of Plastic, Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgeons	BAPRAS is connected with DAHNO – the Head and Neck Cancer audit
Breast	Association of Breast Surgery	Association of Breast Surgery Audits
Cardiothoracic	Society for Cardiothoracic Surgery in Great Britain and Ireland	NICOR Audits
Day Surgery	British Association of Day Surgery	
Endocrine	British Association of Endocrine and Thyroid Surgeons (BAETs)	See BAETS website
Gastrointestinal	The Association of Upper Gastrointestinal Surgeons	Bowel Cancer Audit - NHS Information Centre

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Hand	The British Society for Surgery of the Hand	
Head and Neck	British Association of Otorhinolaryngologists Head and Neck Surgery (ENT-UK) Subspecialties <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ British Association for Paediatric Otorhinolaryngology ▪ British Society of Otolaryngology ▪ British Rhinological Society ▪ ENT UK Head & Neck ▪ Facial Plastic Surgery UK 	Head and Neck Audit (DAHNO) - NHS Information Centre
Laparoscopic	The Association of Laparoscopic Surgeons	National Audit of Theatre Equipment 2011
Oral and Maxillofacial	British Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons (BAOMS) The British Association of Oral Surgeons	BAOMS is involved in DAHNO – the Head and Neck Cancer audit
Neurological	Society of British Neurological Surgeons	National Shunt Registry http://www.sbns.org.uk

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Orthopaedic	British Orthopaedic Association Supported by specialist societies for specific areas, e.g hips, knees, elbows, limb reconstruction etc; see British Orthopaedic Association A-Z of Societies British Hip Society	National Joint Registry National Hip Fracture Database
Paediatric	British Association of Paediatric Surgeons	
Spine	British Association of Spine Surgeons	
Urology	British Association of Urological Surgeons (BAUS)	
Assistant surgeons	National Association of Assistants in Surgical Practice	
<p><i>Other health professions</i> Generally there are no single audits for any of these disciplines although members, e.g, nurses, participate in many – they are not listed here.</p>		
Art, drama and music therapies	The British Association of Art Therapists The Association of Professional Music Therapists The British Association of Drama Therapists	
Chiropodists	The Society of Chiropodists and Podiatrists - Feet for Life	
Clinical Biochemists	The Association of Clinical Biochemists	The Association of Clinical Biochemists Audits

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Dentistry	Faculty of General Dental Practice UK The British Dental Association The British Orthodontic Society	<p>The British Orthodontic Society is a charity which aims to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote the study and practice of orthodontics Maintain and improve professional standards in orthodontics Encourage research and education in orthodontics
Dietitians	The British Dietetic Association	
Hospice staff	Help the Hospices	National Care of the Dying Audit of Hospitals Help the Hospice - National Audit Tools Group
Midwifery	The Royal College of Midwives	
Nursing	Royal College of Nursing	
Occupational Therapy	British Association of Occupational Therapists and College of Occupational Therapists	
Operating Department Practitioners	College of Operating Department Practitioners	
Optometry	Association of Optometrists <p>The College of Optometry also promotes audit amongst optometrists.</p> The College of Optometrists	

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Orthoptists	The British and Irish Orthoptic Society	
Paramedics	College of Paramedics	HQIP Current Audits - Ambulance
Pharmacy	Royal Pharmaceutical Society UK Clinical Pharmacy Association	<p>The Royal Pharmaceutical Society (RPS) is committed to promoting audit to our members, and supporting our members to conduct high quality audit and quality improvement initiatives. The following is a list of resources we provide to our members and audit-related activities we are currently involved in:</p> <p>Audit templates Audit information and guidance on website Links to professional standards Showcasing of good practice audits Links of audit results to our Map of Evidence (an RPS initiative to build the evidence base for the profession) Support of applications to HQIP for funding Collaborative audits on Medicines Use Reviews and pharmacy alcohol services.</p> <p>Future activities: Refreshing of audit templates to link to new RPS Professional Standards and other quality criteria Promoting good practice via website and encouraging sharing of experience and tools Involvement in further collaborative and/or national audits</p>
Physiotherapy	Chartered Society of Physiotherapy	
Prosthetists	The British Association of Prosthetists and Orthotists (BAPO)	
Radiography	The Society of Radiographers	

Area of healthcare	Name of professional body	Relevant National Audit or audit pages (where applicable)
Speech and language therapists	The Royal College of Speech and Language Therapists	

Some studies spread across individual disciplines, an example is [The National Confidential Enquiry into Patient Outcomes and Deaths \(NCEPOD\)](#)