

NEWS RELEASE

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East Cheshire NHS Trust shortlisted for prestigious CHKS dataquality award for England

East Cheshire NHS Trust has been shortlisted for this year's CHKS data qualityaward (part of the CHKS top hospitals programme 2011), which take place on 10 May in London.

The programme, which is now in its eleventh year, celebrates excellence in the areas of patient safety, quality of care and data quality. The awards are based on a number of criteria and recognise excellence in clinical coding, which plays an essential role in improving the quality of care provided to patients.

Treatment codes are allocated to every patient admitted to hospital and tracked to make sure the patients' details are accurately recorded and available to clinicians. East Cheshire NHS Trust is one of only five to be shortlisted, following an assessment of all hospitals in the UK, against a number of criteria, including standards of completeness, accuracy and level of detail.

The winner will be announced on 10 May at an awards ceremony in London hosted by CHKS, the UK's leading independent provider of healthcare intelligence and quality improvement services to the NHS.

Kath Senior, Director of Nursing, Performance and Quality said: 'We are delighted to be shortlisted for this data quality award. Our Clinical Coding Teams work very hard to ensure accurate and complete data, which helps us improve the quality of services for our patients.'

Jim Coles, Director of Research, CHKS said: 'Information will play an increasingly important role in healthcare delivery as the government's reform programme indicates. Data quality is the bedrock of good information. Without it, we would not be able to make informed decisions to improve quality of care. Our data qualityawards highlight the very best performance in clinical coding quality and completeness.'

Ends

Notes to editors:

1. East Cheshire NHS Trust is the main provider of acute and community health services for the people of Cheshire. The trust, based at Macclesfield District General Hospital also includes two community hospitals, Congleton War Memorial and Knutsford District Community.
2. Visit our website www.eastcheshire.nhs.uk to access the latest news releases.
3. **CHKS Ltd**, part of the Capita Group, is the leading independent provider of healthcare intelligence and quality improvement services to the NHS and independent healthcare sector. With over 20 years' experience and working internationally with 250 clients, CHKS has a portfolio of information products, internationally-recognised accreditation programmes and consultancy services which provide clinicians and managers with the information needed to drive improvements in patient care, financial efficiency, clinical effectiveness and quality. CHKS has an Advisory Board to provide direction and advice on strategic healthcare issues in the UK and overseas.
4. The five organisations shortlisted for the CHKS data quality award (England) are:
 - East Cheshire NHS Trust
 - Gateshead Health NHS Foundation Trust
 - Ipswich Hospital NHS Trust
 - North Middlesex University Hospital NHS Trust
 - Northumbria Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust
5. The indicators for 2011 are:
 - Percentage of uncoded episodes
 - Percentage of episodes coded with signs and symptoms as a primary diagnosis
 - Depth of coding
 - Percentage of invalid codes (generating HRGs in the "U" category)
 - Number of episodes with blank or invalid specialty code
 - Number of episodes with blank or invalid consultant code