Translating the theory of system integration into practice at scale. AQuA’s approach to providing implementation support in North West England

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Abstract:

Objectives: To describe a regional programme of support to enable local economies to translate integrated care theory into practice. The poster focusses on the Integrated Care Framework developed to support participating economies assess, plan, implement and measure sustainable improvements across eight key domains essential to enabling integrated care. The self-assessments inform the iterative development of the support programme.

Purpose: Integrated care is the focus of UK health policy yet no recipe for implementation at scale exists. AQuA, a membership improvement organisation in North West England, commenced a regional learning and improvement programme in 2011 co-designed with members.

Background: The Integrated Care Discovery Community involves 55 organisations in 19 health and social care economies all concentrating on improved outcomes for frail older people. The Integrated Care Framework assessments enable teams to focus on the technical and underpinning cultural improvements needed to scale up to make system level changes. AQuA is continually developing the programme of support to members, which includes a learning network, technical workshops, webinars, masterclasses, seminars, executive and team coaching, action learning sets and tailored on site support to address the enablers of most concern.

Conclusion: Six monthly self-assessment framework scores indicate improvement across the key enablers to integrated care and have informed the design and delivery of the programme of implementation support.

A regional co-designed approach can be successful in engaging and supporting teams to drive integration at scale but the programme needs to be responsive to emergent issues to effectively enable innovation and learning.

Keywords

implementation, integrated care assessment framework, scale, improvement

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