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### BEACON APP – IMPROVING ACCESS TO LOCAL GUIDELINES IN PAEDIATRICS AT DERRIFORD HOSPITAL

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#### Objective

Derriford Hospital in Plymouth has created the Beacon App as a means of harnessing smartphone technology to improve accessibility of local guidelines and promote evidence based medicine. It has been established in women's services and NICU as well as neurocritical care and anaesthesia. This project describes its introduction to the paediatric anaesthetic department.

#### Design

The Beacon App has been designed in house by Derriford's Agile Development Team. These IT specialists have worked closely with clinicians to create a bespoke platform offering user friendly content which can be tailored to each individual department. An administration component provides different user privileges to perform guideline updates, ratification and approval. A strong but flexible governance process has been incorporated to allow constant and dynamic updating and review of the content. Beacon is available for staff on any mobile or desk-top device on-site, in the community and at home. Guidelines and articles can be downloaded for offline use with frequent synchronisation prompts when online. It has multiple other functionalities such as sections for medicines information, departmental teaching and contact information. The look and user experience of Beacon remains the same across departments since content is added through pre-designed templates. This makes Beacon clear and simple to use even for staff rotating through different departments.

#### Method

Beacon is currently being used in gynaecology and obstetrics at Derriford Hospital, as well as being developed for Neonatal Intensive Care, Neuro Critical Care, and Neuroanaesthesia. Peninsula anaesthetic trainees complete intermediate and higher paediatric anaesthesia modules at Derriford Hospital. Educational information and guidelines have previously been shared by a printed booklet and PDF. Printed documents and PDFs have poor document control however, and are difficult to keep up to date. We are introducing the Beacon App to include the Derriford paediatric guidelines, paediatric retrieval information, support for the critically unwell child, educational resources and research studies currently contributed to by the department.

#### Results

The Paediatric section of Beacon will be launched February 2020. Once disseminated, we will survey trainee anaesthetists undertaking paediatric anaesthesia training modules to assess their experience regarding accessibility, usability, relevance of content and clarity of the information provided. This will help guide further development of the content and app design.

## Conclusions

Beacon is an ambitious project that promises to improve trainee learning experience as well as providing clinical guideline support during on calls. It offers the opportunity for the paediatric department to engage in digital development and provide an exciting and dynamic tool for its users that integrates with the rest of the hospital.

### References:

Designing a clinical app for a tertiary referral hospital: using feedback to get it right. ASME ASM 2017, Oral presentation F. Mazzola, V Lewis, C Bishop, P Smith, J Scott

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