



Think Kidneys AKI Programme Newsletter April 2017

Not quite over and out...

After more than three years, the national Think Kidneys Acute Kidney Injury programme, established to improve the care of people with, or at risk of AKI, has concluded its main body of work, formally closes at the end of March. The programme has successfully achieved all its objectives and more, and this is recorded in a [Review and Evaluation](#) report which details the work we've undertaken and the resources delivered. Click on the link to see the full report.

The future's still orange

A new board has been established to oversee continuing work on AKI and Think Kidneys. The board will be managed by the UK Renal Registry and will continue to foster collaboration between stakeholders including both NHS England and NHS Improvement.

The developing master patient index of AKI data will continue and analysis will be published on a regular basis by UKRR. A detailed analysis plan is currently being developed. The Master Patient Index will be supported by data linkage to support further study, research and improvement.

The UKRR programme team will be working over the next few months to deliver the following -

- The [measurement](#) of the rates of AKI, for comparison and commissioning purposes, will also continue, managed by the UKRR.
- The developing master patient index of AKI data will continue, and analysis will be published on a regular basis by UKRR. Regular communications with pathology labs will be sustained.
- Guidance on AKI currently being finalised includes a quick guide to AKI for health and care professionals working in the community, including ambulance staff, as well as lesson plans on AKI for undergraduate nursing schools.
- The [public campaign](#) continues with materials still available to raise awareness about the importance of kidneys for life and health.
- New resources on the website include resources for [care homes](#), the [secondary care risk matrix](#), and patient leaflets for [young people and the carers of children](#).
- Changes to the website have been made to reflect the changing nature of the programme but resources and information will be updated and reviewed regularly.
- The Think Kidneys App was launched at the closing event in February and can be downloaded from app stores for iPhones, smart phones and all tablets. We will be adding more resources to the app shortly, please help by spreading the word.
- We have responded to NICE guidelines on the clinical management of AKI (2013) by developing a list of Think Kidneys resources which meet the requirements of each of the six quality standards. NICE have confirmed that they have approved our submission, following quality assurance and will publish it on the NICE website on 3 April.
- The RCGP has AKI as one of its priorities for 2017. The aim is to improve the recognition of and response to AKI in primary care and will be working with Think Kidneys.

And finally...

- Connect with KQuIP at www.thinkkidneys.nhs.uk/kquip which is where renal improvement will be driven and showcased.
- We are always keen to promote and share renal improvement work, AKI or otherwise. If you would like to send a case study of your work for publication on the website, contact julie.slevin@renalregistry.nhs.uk, we'd be very keen to hear from you.
- Over the coming months we will aim to send out an update quarterly.

