



Kent and Medway

HSJ AWARDS 2022

17 NOVEMBER 2022 | EVOLUTION LONDON

WE ARE PROUD WINNERS

PATIENT SAFETY AWARD

HSJ PATIENT SAFETY AWARDS 2022

15 September 2022 | Manchester Central, Manchester

WE ARE PROUD TO BE A FINALIST

IMPROVING CARE FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE INITIATIVE OF THE YEAR

Medicines Optimisation in Schools: *“The journey to making pharmacy part of the integrated commissioned service offer to special schools in Kent”*

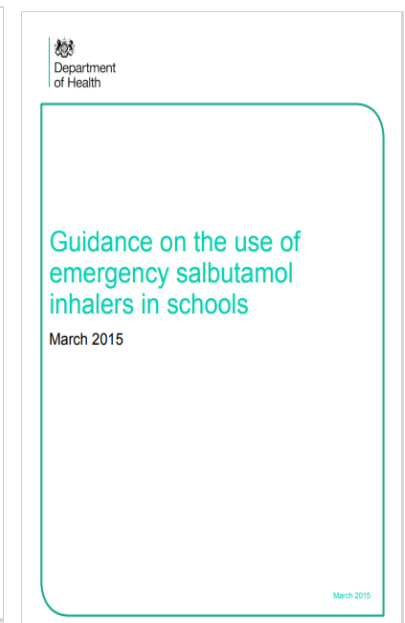
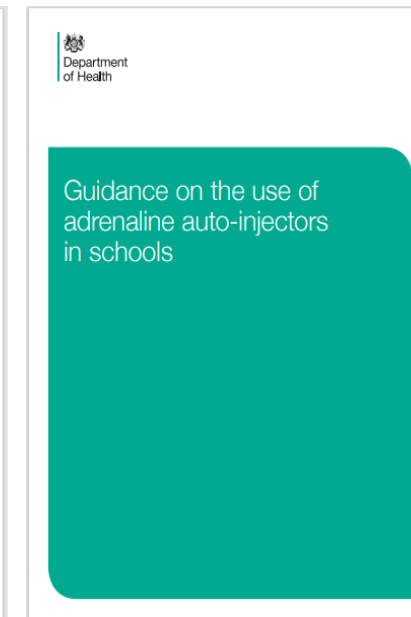
Nirusha Govender
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NHS Kent and Medway Integrated Care Board (ICB)



What is currently available for schools?



- Medicines optimisation is all about supporting children and young people so that they get the best possible outcomes from their medicines.
- **Supporting pupils at schools with medical conditions.** Section 100 of the Children and Families Act 2014 places a duty on governing bodies of maintained schools, proprietors of academies and management committees of PRUs to make arrangements for supporting pupils at their school with medical conditions.
- The SEND reforms introduced by the Children and Families Act 2014 focus on two key themes: greater co-operation between education, health and social care and a greater focus on the outcomes.





Existing Barriers:

- Currently there is a lack of a standardised approach to health provision
- Great variations exists nationally in health provision for SEND and mainstream schools
- limited financial resources within schools
- increase in medication related errors due to the increased burden and responsibility on teaching and support staff to undertake medicines administration tasks
- a perceived lack of funding/consistent approach in the current commissioning structure for the inclusion of a specialist pharmacy led service to special schools

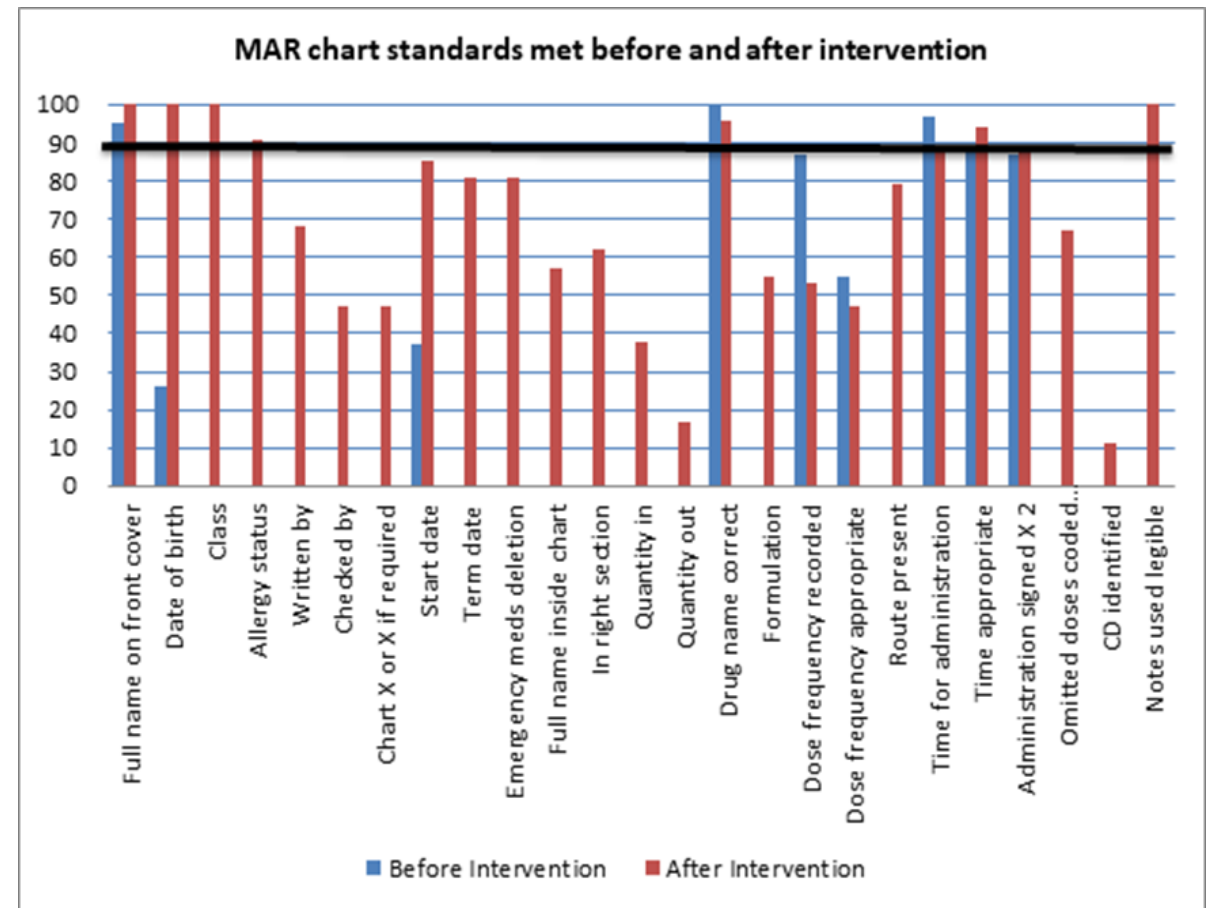


How can the pharmacy profession support with co-production/collaboration?

Keeping children and families at the heart of everything we do: Listen to their voices

Kent Model and Local Evidence:

- Pilot study highlighted that with the appropriate level of specialist pharmacy support the school were largely successful at supporting the safe and effective management of medicines to CYP minimising the risk of errors.
- The specialist pharmacy made appropriate interventions including deprescribing recommendations to the special school which directly supported the school to achieve a 60% reduction of when required (PRN) salbutamol inhalers at school, improving patient outcomes and indirectly minimised the medicines waste burden on the wider health economy.



Kent model criteria which demonstrates/highlights the Ambition, Outcome, Spread, Involvement and Value of the project

1. Supports collaboration and co-production:

- setting free the voices of SEND children and young people (CYP) who are often seen but not heard.
- keeping CYP and their families at the heart of everything we do listening to their voices.
- Clear focus on outcomes that matter most to CYP, their families ensuring the best experience at school without compromising learning time.



2. Strengthens the education and healthcare partnership:

- Promotes partnership working thereby turning the vicious cycle of challenges into a virtuous one of opportunities.
- Promotes the vision of the SEND green paper aspirations – developing traction on the national agenda to drive changes.
- Delivers outcomes supporting the NHS long term plan and national projects such as STOMP/STAMP.



3. Enhances transformation of pharmacy workforce:

- Promotes the development of a specialist role for pharmacy technicians in an untapped sector of healthcare bringing services to the community.
- Supports integrated working across various options including community pharmacy enhanced services opportunities as well as the use of a specialist pharmacy service.
- Service delivery design supports replication of practice/spread in all special schools and mainstream schools whilst still acknowledging individual bespoke requirements.



Summary video presentation of the Kent Project:

NHS
Kent Community Health
NHS Foundation Trust

Supporting pupils with
**medicines at
school**



[Medicines Optimisation in Specialist Schools – QI Central
\(rcpch.ac.uk\)](http://rcpch.ac.uk)

Benefits of Community Pharmacy and Specialised Pharmacy Services support for CYP, families and Schools:

- Reducing health inequalities and improving health and wellbeing are major priorities for pharmacy.
- Promotes and supports the STOMP-STAMP agenda in relation to overprescribing and deprescribing considerations for school
- Pharmacists' skills of listening, explaining, advising and questioning are all highly relevant to help identify and support the medicines optimisation needs of CYP with complex health needs in special schools.
- Community Pharmacists are local, accessible and ideally placed to develop close links with CYP, families and their schools:
- Repeat prescription service
- Effective medication reviews which includes considerations for deprescribing (New Medicines Service, Discharge Medicine Service)
- MAR Chart provision
- Medicines Information and Counselling
- Provision of suitable emergency medicine kits for salbutamol and adrenaline auto-injectors in schools.

USEFUL RESOURCES:

- UK Legislation: Children and Families Act 2014, Chapter 6. Available at: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2014/6>
- Statutory Guidance: SEND code of practice: 0 to 25 years: Guidance on the special educational needs and disability (SEND) system for children and young people aged 0 to 25, from 1 September 2014. Available here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/send-code-of-practice-0-to-25>
- NICE Guidance (NG213): Disabled children and young people up to 25 with severe complex needs: integrated service delivery and organisation across health, social care and education. Available from: <https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ng213>
- Royal Pharmaceutical Society. Medicines Optimisation: Helping patients to make the most of medicines Good practice guidance for healthcare professionals in England. Available from: <https://www.rpharms.com/Portals/0/RPS%20document%20library/Open%20access/Policy/helping-patients-make-the-most-of-their-medicines.pdf>
- Royal Pharmaceutical Society. Principles of Safe and Appropriate production of Medicine Administration Charts. Available from: <https://www.rpharms.com/Portals/0/RPS%20document%20library/Open%20access/Hub/production-medicine-administration-charts.pdf>
- Department of Health and Social Care. Guidance on the use of adrenaline auto-injectors in schools. Available from: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/645476/Adrenaline_auto_injectors_in_schools.pdf
- Department of Health and Social Care. Emergency Asthma inhalers for use in schools. Available from: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/emergency-asthma-inhalers-for-use-in-schools>
- Kent County Council Website, KELSI: <https://www.kelsi.org.uk/special-education-needs/special-educational-needs/send-health-support/supporting-pupils-at-school-with-medical-conditions>
- Govender N, Children in special needs schools urgently need more pharmacist support to take their medicines safely. Pharmaceutical Journal, Paediatric Special Edition [Internet]. 2021 February. Available from: <https://pharmaceutical-journal.com/article/opinion/children-in-special-needs-schools-urgently-need-more-pharmacist-support-to-take-their-medicines-safely>
- Govender N, FutureNHS Collaboration Workspace: Medicines Optimisation for Special Schools. Available from: <https://future.nhs.uk/MedOptimisationSpecialSchools/grouphome>

THANK YOU!



Nirusha Govender is a pharmacist and currently the Associate Director for Medicines Governance and Pharmacy Education at NHS Kent and Medway Integrated Care Board (ICB). With over 25 years' experience in community services, Nirusha is passionate about SEND and working towards equitable healthcare service access for the local population. Over the past 12 years, she has worked very closely with specialist children's nursing, local authorities and special schools. Nirusha has extensive experience with several special schools in Kent with a particular focus on medicines optimisation service provision including training, competency assessments, quality improvement and assurance reviews and a medicines information service.

Publications include:

Pharmaceutical Journal (PJ) Publication, February 2020: <https://pharmaceutical-journal.com/article/opinion/children-in-special-needs-schools-urgently-need-more-pharmacist-support-to-take-their-medicines-safely>

Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health (RCPCH) QI Central Publication, May 2022: <https://qicentral.rcpch.ac.uk/resources/safety/medicines-optimisation-in-special-schools/>

National Association for Special Education Needs (NASEN) Connect Publication, November 2022: Is Pharmacy part of the solution to a collaborative health and education service delivery model for children and young people in special schools?: <https://nasen.org.uk/resources/nasen-connect-magazine-november-2022>

Poster presentation at Clinical Pharmacy Congress May 2022, London

Poster presentation at European Society for Clinical Pharmacy Polypharmacy Symposium October 2022, Prague

Award Winner for:

[Health Service Journal Main Awards November 2022](#) in the "Patient Safety Award" Category

Finalists for:

[Clinical Pharmacy Congress May 2022 Awards](#) in the "Unsung Hero Award" category

[Health Service Journal Patient Safety Awards October 2022](#) in the Improving Care for Children and Young People Initiative of the Year" Category