

## **BMJ Quality and Safety paper: “Impact of introducing an electronic physiological surveillance system on hospital mortality”**

*Statement from Roger Killen, CEO of The Learning Clinic, the company which developed the VitalPAC system cited in the paper.*

“We welcome the publication of today’s paper in *BMJ Quality and Safety*, which provides peer-reviewed confirmation of the benefits for patient care of using VitalPAC to record patient observations.

“The paper shows that at two large hospitals the introduction of VitalPAC was followed by a fall in mortality rates equivalent to one patient’s life saved each day in each hospital.

“Other studies on the impact of VitalPAC have shown it can also cut infection rates, the incidence of cardiac arrests on wards, and the need to use Intensive Care Units, all of which combine to reduce length of stay in hospital. This brings real benefits to patients as well as saving the NHS money.”

“More than 40 hospitals across England are already using the system bringing significant benefits to patients as it supports nurses in taking more than ten million sets of patient observations each year.”

### Notes to Editors

The Learning Clinic is a health improvement company which developed VitalPAC, an electronic system for recording patients’ vital signs which is featured in a paper in *BMJ Quality and Safety* published today.

The paper and accompanying editorial can be viewed online at <http://qualitysafety.bmj.com/> from 0001 Wednesday 24 September 2014

The paper studied mortality rates at Queen Alexandra Hospital, Portsmouth, and University Hospital Coventry between 2005 and 2010, during the introduction of the VitalPAC electronic system for recording patient observations. It found a 15% drop in mortality in each hospital following the system’s introduction, amounting to a reduction in deaths of more than 370 a year in each hospital.

For a copy of the paper and to interview Roger Killen please contact The Learning Clinic on +44 (0)20 8746 4545 or [media@thelearningclinic.co.uk](mailto:media@thelearningclinic.co.uk). @VitalPAC. Out of hours please contact Michael Clarke on 07872 158833 or [michael.clarke@thamesadvisors.com](mailto:michael.clarke@thamesadvisors.com). @michaelclarke99

VitalPAC allows nurses to record patient’s heart rate, blood pressure, respiration and other vital signs on an Ipod instead of a paper chart. Using an iPod is quicker and more accurate than using a chart. Also there can be patterns in the measurements which suggest a patient’s condition is worsening.

The VitalPAC software enables clinicians to identify these patterns earlier and more consistently and prompt corrective actions sooner. The system is linked wirelessly, so any clinician can instantly check on a patient’s condition using any device on the network as well as monitor and respond to the busyness of a ward or hospital.