

VitalPAC goes live across 250 more wards

Electronic observation system VitalPAC rolled out across 6,000 beds across 250 wards during 2014, according to its developer The Learning Clinic.

The average roll-out time across a whole hospital was 13.4 weeks, according to TLC.

Seven of the Trusts that rolled out were those that received funding from the first tranche of the Nursing Technology Fund, announced early last year. The next round of awards from the Fund is expected to be announced by NHS England imminently.

The roll-out brings the number of hospitals using VitalPAC to 45, covering almost 14,000 beds.

“We are delighted our hospital partners have achieved such a rapid and successful roll-out of the system, enabling clinical staff to benefit from the support our system gives in recording observations and taking high-quality decisions about care,”
said The Learning Clinic CEO Roger Killen.

VitalPAC runs on Apple Ipods and Ipads, giving clinicians instant information about patient condition and highlighting any deterioration.

Alerts can be sent to doctors on their own devices, complete with full clinical information about the patient. The data is also accessible from anywhere on the hospital network, giving managers a real-time picture of ward ‘busyness’ and the patients requiring the closest monitoring.

A recent study in BMJ Quality and Safety found the deployment of VitalPAC in two hospitals was followed by a 15% drop in mortality rates.

Early reports from the Trusts which received Nurse Technology Fund investment are already indicating that roll-out is followed by levels of mortality reduction similar to those identified in the BMJ Quality and Safety study, along with reductions in length of stay.