





## Timeline

2004

Trust identifies problem with patient observations and escalation, trust-wide mortality at 7.6%

Trust approaches The Learning Clinic to develop solution

2005

2006

Vitalpac launched on first ward

2007

2008

2009

Vitalpac rolled out to all wards

2010

2011

Mortality rate falls by

**15.5%**

# The results

## A sustained hospital-wide fall in mortality

Each time that Vitalpac was rolled out on a ward, there was a noticeable drop in mortality. The initial roll-out onto the Acute Medical and Acute Surgical Units led to a rapid fall in crude mortality rates from 13.64% to 11.2% (equivalent to over 200 fewer deaths per year). The drop accounted for a fall in hospital-wide mortality from 7.6% to 6.99%. Once build of a new hospital site was complete, Vitalpac was rolled-out to other wards. At this point, hospital-wide mortality reduced further to 6.42%, equivalent to an additional 150 fewer deaths per year.



Queen Alexandra Hospital has sustained this considerable reduction in mortality. Medical Director at Portsmouth Hospital NHS Foundation Trust (PHT), Simon Holmes said:

“ Everywhere that Vitalpac has been deployed, we’ve seen a demonstrable drop in mortality. This is very important to our board who always seek to improve and maintain performance at the hospital. Staff at ward and manager level are also excited and motivated by the changes in the hospital’s outcomes. While Vitalpac started as a track and trigger system, the opportunities for improvement throughout hospital activity now seem endless and we look forward to working with The Learning Clinic to figure out the next area to focus on.”

## PHT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED MORTALITY RATES AND PATIENT OBSERVATIONS

- Before the introduction of Vitalpac across the hospital, the hospital experienced many peaks and troughs in its mortality rates
- Vitalpac is rolled out across the hospital from Jan 09, when the peaks and falls even out and overall the mortality rate starts to fall
- The relationship between the number of Vitalpac observations (bottom line and triangle points) and smoothing and declining mortality rates is clear
- Following full Vitalpac roll-out and increased consistency in observations, the trust sustained a lower mortality rate, with less variation from January 2009

