

Thursday 9 March 2023

NEWS2 is here for our community services to help save lives

The early identification and assessment of deteriorating patients in a community setting is a national and local priority. Having a standardised approach to undertaking clinical observations and then knowing how to escalate any concerns that may arise, can help lead to the early detection of a serious or life-threatening condition such as sepsis or stroke and will save lives.

Following a serious incident, we've been busy reviewing our approaches to recording patient observations and escalating concerns. We found that there was a difference across the localities, with some areas, such as our city-wide services, using the **National Early Warning Score (NEWS2) tool**, whilst others used routine observation charts.

Therefore, to help our staff within their role and prevent further serious incidents from occurring, we've piloted the **NEWS2 tool** with some services to test a new standardised approach for the LCOs. We know from research that **NEWS2** is highly effective in identifying deteriorating or at-risk patients.

The pilot has been successful, and we're pleased to be able to share that the **NEWS2** can now be used by all teams and services for the recording of observations. The **tool will be in EMIS**, and training for band 3 and above clinical staff within nursing teams and the Manchester Community Response teams on how to complete it will shortly be available via the [MFT Learning Hub](#). There is also a **supporting policy** to go along with the NEWS2, which you can find under the [MFT Policy Hub](#).

Lastly, we're in the process finalising our escalation plan and as soon as this becomes available, we will update you all. In the meantime, should you have any questions or queries, please contact [Lisa Cottrell](#) or [Gill Acreman](#), project leads for the implementation of NEWS2.