

APPLICATION FORM

HOST FORM

NOTE – Please complete a form for each project

Host organisation details

Name of Host organisation	Public Health Agency
Name of facilitator	Dr Tracy Owen
Contact details –email and phone	tracy.owen@hscni.net Tel: 028 9027 9381
Number of trainees which can be facilitated	1
Base address* *This is where the trainee will attend for meetings with the facilitator and others.	Public Health Agency, 18 Ormeau Avenue, Belfast
Duration of placement (one session per week) – number of sessions in total	24

PROJECT DETAILS*

(The project must be relevant to Primary Care and have a potential impact on the work of the host GP practice)

What are you trying to accomplish? (400 words)

General practices are involved in delivering the NI Cervical Screening Programme through the taking of samples from women in the eligible age range.

Discussions with primary care colleagues and a number of Serious Adverse Incidents, have highlighted a lack of awareness and clarity among primary care as to their role and responsibilities within the programme. This has resulted in variation in practice in relation to the call/recall function, how often women are invited, the information provided to women to support them to

make an informed choice, appropriate follow up management following treatment, training requirements for staff and interpretation of the practice requirements under QOF.

This is leading to women receiving unnecessary and multiple invitations to attend for screening, additional costs being incurred within the practice and women undergoing inappropriate smear tests.

This project aims to standardise practice across Northern Ireland to ensure that all women have access to a quality assured cancer screening programme that meets national standards.

How will you know that a change is an improvement? (400 words)

The following monitoring will be undertaken to ensure improvement can be demonstrated:

- Ongoing statistical monitoring of the screening programme via the Quality Assurance Reference Centre of the Public Health Agency, is used to benchmark the NI programme against the national quality standards.**
- Reporting of adverse incidents in primary care**
- Reduction in 'out of programme' cervical smears**
- Reduction in inappropriate early follow-up smears**
- Existing patient satisfaction surveys with women referred to colposcopy will be used to seek feedback on primary care aspect/informed choice**
- Feedback can be sought directly from practices and from smertakers at update training events**

What changes can you make that will result in an improvement? (400 words)

This project seeks to develop standard relevant guidance on the cervical screening programme for primary care in Northern Ireland.

The guidance should be in a suitable format that will support practices to develop appropriate in house protocols, form the basis of update training programmes for smear takers and provide an audit tool for use at practice level.

***IHI model for improvement**

The trainee will be released from their training practice for an afternoon each week. 3-4 hours each week. How long will the placement last?

6 months

Other relevant information (400 words)

The involvement of a GP trainee in this project will bring value and expertise to ensure that the products are relevant and in a format that is suitable for primary care. It will help to identify the key issues of concern and the appropriate areas around which the guidance should be focused.

The resource can then be tested within a practice before being rolled out across Northern Ireland. This may include opportunities to deliver training to practices and/or smear takers.

Support for the project can be provided by the Regional Primary Care Quality Assurance Group for Cancer screening, which includes GP, practice manager, family planning and integrated care members. This group would act as a reference group and the source of any advice specific to primary care. The work is also expected to involve linking with regional professional leads for cytology and colposcopy for their expert input and advice. Admin support will be provided by the Quality Assurance Reference Centre of the PHA.

The project will provide an opportunity to gain a wider knowledge of a population screening programme in terms of its structure, quality assurance and commissioning.