Using data to alleviate GP pressures

372 hours of practice time saved

Information and Intelligence
Our Local Intelligence Support Team (LIST) has worked with GP practices in Inverclyde to analyse the effectiveness of having additional healthcare professionals working in primary care. The team carried out a multidisciplinary approach to introduce new staff members and professional groups into primary care to support the work of practices.

In order to establish the effectiveness of the work of advance nurse practitioners (ANPs) in GP practices, high quality and timely data had to be gathered. The question was whether ANPs could take on a proportion of work from GPs while maintaining safe and effective patient care.

Five practices in Inverclyde were approached to be part of an initial study, and were asked to provide data about the activities of new staff members and an associated proportion of time. Data was then analysed and fed back to the practices.

During the course of the study, the use of ANPs as an alternative to GPs has saved 372 hours worth of time. This has allowed GPs to spend more time in their practice and has been invaluable in helping to alleviate pressure.

Similar programmes are now proposed for all GP clusters across Inverclyde due to the programme’s success.

Interested in finding out more? Contact nss.communications@nhs.net