Developing an explorer tool to reduce unwarranted clinical variation

Poor value healthcare is identified and eliminated

High value healthcare is strengthened and replicated

More impactful change schemes are delivered

We have the national vision and overview to supplement local knowledge

A greater understanding of variation

Enabling commissioners to interpret data at an STP level

The explorer tool is currently being piloted with three STPs
Diagnosing the problem

- NHS RightCare Commissioning for Value (CfV) packs are a useful resource for CCGs
- Commissioners need a more recent and more detailed understanding of opportunities
- CfV packs can be difficult to interpret at an STP level
- We undertook an exercise to explore how we could better support CGGs and STPs to understand and address clinical variation

What did we do?

Capture
- Working with our NHS RightCare delivery partner to fully understand customer requirements
- Reviewed international literature and best practice on clinical variation
- Identified the most powerful and effective approaches
- Utilised existing NHS RightCare mappings to identify peer groups for all CCGs
- Combined these into STP areas
- Overlaid the latest contractual data for the current picture
- Used patient level data to drill down

Analyse
- Scope of the solution and key analytic queries were identified
- A standard approach was developed to allow rapid turnaround
- Analysts were trained in deep dive techniques
- Analysts were trained in interpreting NHS RightCare intelligence

Act
- The explorer tool has been made available to three STPs on a pilot basis
- Close working with NHS RightCare to ensure alignment of approaches
- STP level briefing packs developed
- Widespread use of in depth analytics

Outcomes

- Poor value healthcare is identified and eliminated
- High value healthcare is strengthened and replicated
- Services are improved for the key segments identified
- A better understanding of what is happening right now
- Manage initiatives to reduce clinical variation in real time
- A greater understanding of variation
- The insight to deliver more impactful change schemes
- National vision and overview to supplement customer’s local knowledge
- A greater understanding of variation and successful approaches to reducing it
- Forms a key element of our wider approach to Population Health Management