

Medical Directorate

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Date 7 June 2019
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Our Ref MJM/lc/Calderwood
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Dear Catherine

Scottish Atlas of Healthcare Variation

Thank you for your recent letter regarding the Scottish Atlas of Healthcare Variation.

I recently had a very useful discussion with our newly appointed Chief Executive (Amanda Croft) and Medical Director (Nick Fluck). We fully appreciate the positive influence the Atlas will have in promoting the change from lower value to higher value Healthcare in line with the Cabinet Secretary's strategic aims. It is pleasing that the useful ENT evaluation on tonsillectomy was coordinated by Professor Kim Ah-See who is one of our local ENT surgeons.

As a result of the above discussions, I have been commissioned to produce a paper to take before the Systems Leadership Team at the earliest opportunity. This will be done with the help of our Director of Modernisation (Graeme Smith). This will allow full engagement with the Executives and Non-Executives of our Health Board and allow our direction and priorities to be discussed and established at the highest level. As part of this, we are forming a dedicated multi-disciplinary team to allow the principles of Realistic Medicine and the lessons from the "Atlas" to be discussed, disseminated and implemented as quickly as possible. We have already had the first meeting to establish the initial membership. It is clear that this strategy requires cooperation and assistance from a number of key individuals.

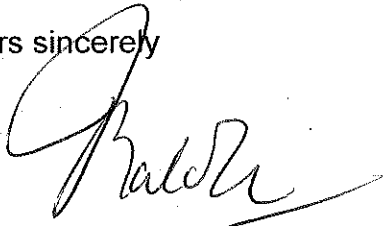
In addition to above other essential colleagues are:

Jillian Evans (Head of Health Intelligence)
Lorraine Scott (Deputy Director of Modernisation)
Steve Stott (Associate Medical Director for Quality)
William Moore (Public Health)

I therefore trust that this outlines our initial actions with respect to implementing the results from the "Atlas". We would see this rapidly progressing to influencing clinical practice.

Please let me know if I can assist further

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Malcolm', written in a cursive style.

Dr Malcolm Metcalfe
Deputy Medical Director/Consultant Cardiologist

cc Jillian Evans, Head of Service – Health Intelligence, NHS Grampian
William Moore, Consultant in Public Health Medicine, NHS Grampian
Lorraine Scott, Deputy Director of Modernisation, NHS Grampian
Steve Stott, Associate Medical Director - Clinical Quality Assurance and Improvement,
NHS Grampian