

## Glossary

**Acute Medicine (Acute Medical Take):** The Acute Medicine team coordinates initial medical care for patients referred to them by a GP or the Emergency Departments and decides on whether they need a hospital stay (also referred to as 'the acute medical take').

**Admission** (to hospital): a hospital stay.

**Arthroplasty:** a surgical procedure to restore the function of a joint.

**Assessment (or Evaluation) Criteria:** used to judge (assess) whether a way of organising services would work or not. Each criteria e.g. access to care - has a set of questions used to support the assessment. Used to compare different ways of organising services.

**Centres of Excellence:** bringing staff, equipment and facilities together in one place to provide leading edge care and create links with other related services and staff.

**Citizens' jury:** members of the public representing a cross section of the community are recruited and tackle a public policy question like 'how should we organise these health services?' The jury meets face to face or online and is provided with reliable, impartial information from expert witnesses. The jury members ask questions of the experts and work together to reach conclusions. The jury recommendations and observations are published and fed back to decision makers.

**Clinical benefits:** benefits of providing medical care in a certain way for patients, healthcare professionals or both.

**Clinical outcomes:** the impact of the medical advice, care or treatment patients receive on their health.

**Clinically viable models:** a way of providing services that works well to support high quality health care.

**Coeliac disease:** a condition where a person's immune system attacks their own tissues when they eat gluten. This damages the lining of the gut so the person is unable to absorb nutrients from food properly.

**Comorbidity:** is the state of having multiple health conditions at the same time. Morbidity is the state of being sick or having a disease.

**Configuration:** how services are organised.

**Consultation:** a consultation is designed to involve people in decision making. If there could be a significant change to the way NHS services are provided, we are required to carry out a consultation with the public and community partners. This helps us to understand how people may be affected by the proposed changes before we make decisions.

**Crohn's disease:** a lifelong condition where parts of the digestive system become inflamed.

**Deliverability:** looking at whether a potential service change can be successfully implemented or run.

**Diagnosis:** the identification of the nature of an illness or other problem by examining the symptoms. This can include carrying out tests.

**Direct admission pathway:** an agreed route for a patient to go straight to a hospital ward to get the care they need from doctors, nurses and other staff who specialise in that patient's illness or condition.

**Discharge (from hospital):** supporting a patient to leave hospital when they are fit to do so and receive onward care at home or in another health or care facility. **Elective Care:** care that can be planned in advance. Also known as planned care.

**Endoscopy:** a procedure where organs inside a person's body are looked at using an instrument called an endoscope. An endoscope is a long, thin, flexible tube that has a light and camera at one end. Images of the inside of the body are shown on a television screen. Endoscopy can be used to diagnose a condition.

**Engagement:** an open dialogue (conversation). An opportunity to discuss ideas and involve people in developing potential solutions to meet future health and care needs. Sharing information and exchanging views.

**Gastroenterology:** medical care (not surgery) for stomach, pancreas, bowel or liver problems.

**General Surgery:** relates to conditions of the abdomen, specifically the digestive system or gastrointestinal (GI) system (gut). There are specialists who look after either the 'upper' part of the gut or the 'lower' part of the gut: also known as Upper GI and Lower GI (colorectal).

**Gynaecological oncology:** a specialised area of cancer care focusing on the diagnosis and treatment of cancers affecting women's reproductive organs.

**Health outcomes:** the result of the advice, care or treatment a person receives on their health.

**Hyper acute stroke unit:** provides the initial investigation, treatment and care immediately following a stroke.

**Image guided interventional surgery (IGIS):** procedures where the surgeon uses instruments with live images to guide the surgery.

**Integrated Impact Assessment (IIA):** an assessment of potential changes to services that identifies groups who could be affected more than others by the changes.

**Interventional cardiology:** involves treating heart disease without using open surgery (large cuts or incisions to the body). The procedures are called 'minimally invasive', because they involve small cuts to gain access to the inside of the body and often use catheters (thin, hollow, flexible tubes).

**Interventional radiology:** means using real time images of the inside of the body, captured by X-ray, MRI, ultrasound scans and CT scans to diagnose or treat problems with blood vessels.

**Interventionalist:** physician specifically trained to perform interventional or minimally invasive procedures (see also Interventional cardiology for a definition of 'minimally invasive').

**Invasive (and less invasive) surgery:** invasive surgery involves a significant or large cut or entry into the body using medical instruments. Less invasive indicates the avoidance of a large cut or impact on the body e.g. performing surgery using instruments that only create a small 'key hole', which means people can heal and recover more quickly.

**Length of stay:** the amount of time someone has to stay in hospital for care, treatment and recovery.

**Mitigation:** measures/actions put in place to address negative impacts.

**Multi-disciplinary Team:** a group of professionals from one or more clinical disciplines who together make decisions regarding recommended treatment of individual patients.

**Output of Consultation Report:** a report that includes a description of the consultation activities and the themes of the feedback received.

**Patient flow:** the patient's care journey through a hospital to meet their care needs e.g. from initial assessment in a unit to surgery or care on a ward to leaving hospital. On occasions, it can involve transfer between hospital sites.

**Pelvic resections:** are complex surgeries in which a part of the pelvic ring is surgically removed, usually to treat a malignant tumour.

**Potential solutions:** an idea for improving the way services are organised and improving outcomes for patients (see health outcomes).

**Pre assessment clinic:** where health staff e.g. doctors and nurses can plan for a person's treatment or operation to ensure they get the best possible outcome (see health outcomes).

**Pre Consultation Business Case:** a detailed planning document the local NHS needs to produce when thinking about service changes.

**Preferred option:** a preferred way of organising a service or services that follows a process of engagement and appraisal (see engagement). There is not always a preferred option.

**Prosthesis:** an artificial body part, such as a joint or limb.

**Rota (medical):** a shared work schedule for a group of healthcare professionals in the same field of work or profession e.g. junior doctors covering a particular service or consultants (senior doctors) working in the same department.

**Specialist care:** care often carried out in hospitals for people with particular medical conditions provided by doctors, nurses and other staff with specific knowledge and skills.

**Sub-specialty:** a narrow (specific) field of specialist professional knowledge and skills within a broader specialty e.g. Lower Gastrointestinal (colorectal) surgery is a sub specialty of General Surgery (see General Surgery).

**Sustainable service:** a service that can be provided in a certain way for the long term. A service that will be able to meet the future needs of patients. A service that makes better use of resources e.g. medical equipment/facilities, people, money or environmental.

**Trauma and orthopaedics (T&O):** diagnosis and treatment of conditions relating to the bones and joints and their associated structures that enable movement - ligaments, tendons, muscles and nerves. Trauma surgery is urgent surgery e.g. if a person has been involved in an accident and orthopaedic surgery is planned surgery e.g. hip and knee replacements.

**Ulcerative colitis:** a long term condition where the colon (large intestine – bowel) and rectum become inflamed.

**Urology:** also known as genitourinary surgery, is the branch of medicine that focuses on surgical and medical diseases of the male and female urinary-tract system and the male reproductive organs.

**Vascular surgery:** area of specialist care dealing with the diagnosis and management of conditions affecting the circulation, including disease of the arteries, veins and lymphatic vessels.

**Workforce:** staff e.g. doctors, nurses, therapists.