May has been a busy month with lots going on to support the implementation of Care Capacity Demand Management (CCDM) across CCDHB. The CCDM programme, once fully operational, will help us better match the capacity to care with patient demand and workload.

TrendCare - the software which provides validated patient acuity data to support CCDM - is already operating in most of our wards and inpatient areas, however it’s only one part of the CCDM process.

**Local Data Councils**

At the heart of CCDM is the establishment of Local Data Councils (LDCs) across all the inpatient areas which are using TrendCare. These councils will be introduced as part of a phased approach from next month to December to ensure the new LDCs are well supported. This is an exciting progression for the CCDM program which you can be involved in to make positive changes at our DHB.

A local data council is a group of frontline unit or ward staff who meet regularly to review their ward information and data to identify issues, develop improvement plans, set goals and monitor measures and improvements to the core data set. Over time local data councils will work to improve collaboration between front line staff, managers and union partners, while involving people close to the issue with problem solving.

CCDM is for our staff and our patients care: Following our CCDM Education Day in April we have established CCDM ‘champions’. Now we need our staff to get involved by joining and supporting our local data councils.

Please contact your charge nurse/midwife manager or email CCDM programme manager Emma.Williams2@ccdhb.org.nz for more information.

**High level plan agreed**

A three-year high level plan was agreed by the CCDM Council this month which maps out how we will implement CCDM by 2021. The plan agrees key deliverables in five standards - governance, patient acuity, core data set, staffing methodology and variance response management.

**CCDM website goes live**

The Safe Staffing Healthy Workplaces unit have launched an excellent new CCDM resource. A range of supporting material can be found on the new website www.ccdm.health.nz

Meanwhile the CCDHB website now has an information page on our CCDM programme including the new high level plan. Check it out under ‘working with us’.

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**RESEARCH**

Research findings published in the prestigious Lancet medical journal have shown that administering excessive oxygen increases the risk of death for seriously ill patients.

The study was carried out by the Medical Research Institute of New Zealand (MRINZ) and co-authored by Wellington Regional Hospital intensive care specialist Dr Paul Young.

It involved analysing the results of oxygen therapy for more than 16,000 patients and found that too much oxygen increases the risk of death by around 21 percent.

“The message is clear that too much oxygen can be harmful. Humans have adapted to breathe 21 percent oxygen in the air around us – anything more represents a physiological stress,” Paul says.

Internationally, patients generally receive oxygen if levels drop below 90 percent and it has long been thought that administering oxygen can’t harm patients. However the findings suggest a slightly lower oxygen level could be better for patients.

“There are millions of people around the world who receive oxygen for acute illnesses every day, which gives an idea of the potential global health importance of the findings of this study.”

While more research is underway to try to determine exactly what level of oxygen is dangerous, MRINZ believes the strength of the current evidence is now strong enough that it will now mandate changes in clinical practice not only in New Zealand but also around the world.

A study looking at 1,000 intensive care patients in New Zealand and Australia is also being completed, with results expected early next year.