

## Salford regional one-day Learning Network event

PRIMIS+ no longer runs regional forums, but instead supports NHS teams to organise their own *grassroots* events that have a stronger focus on local issues. The first of these regional events took place in June 2011. Janet Harrison, PRIMIS+ Learning Consultant, explains “The event came about from a discussion I had with the Salford data quality team. We felt there was still a need for information facilitators to get together, network and share ideas and work experiences in this way across all of the Northwest PCTs. They were happy to host the event and were able to book a suitable room at the PCT that could hold enough delegates to warrant a one-day event of this nature, with a view to inviting external guest speakers. It was very much influenced by the old style regional forums in terms of structure and presentations.”

### The event

The day consisted of presentations, breakout and networking sessions. The presenters included nurses from the Greater Manchester and Cheshire Cardiac and Stroke Network who gave an update on the GRASP AF tool. Alicia Elliot from North Lancashire PCT told us “I found the GRASP AF talk useful and I was able to ask a question about the tool which I had previously not received an answer to.” Lisa Williamson delivered a presentation about EMIS web, which proved to be a hot topic and generated a lot of questions from the audience. Barbara Heyes, PRIMIS+ Business Development Consultant, gave an update on consortium information needs. Participants also took part in break out sessions. Helen Perry from NHS Sefton told us “The format of the event makes it a highly useful experience, but the most valuable

element was the breakout sessions where we went into smaller groups to discuss matters important to our roles. It was especially good to be able to dictate the topics, mutually vote on them and then select the top ones for discussion.”

### Feedback

We asked participants if they would recommend arranging similar events to information facilitators and data quality teams in other regions/networks. Gena Leigh from NHS Stockport told us “I strongly recommend other areas doing this for the simple reason that it provides good networking and relationship building that is invaluable in our line of work. Keeping it local means that local issues such as consortia arrangements are relevant to most attendees. Having the regional forum was great but this makes it on a more personal level.” June Hartigan from NHS Bury added “Many of us work in isolation in our place of work and it is nice to meet with like minded people to catch up on what is happening in the wider world of data quality and ongoing projects. Data quality staff work in different areas of the PCT and therefore have different stories to tell.”



Barbara Heyes  
PRIMIS+ Business  
Development Consultant

**If you would like support to organise a similar event, please contact the Learning Consultant for your area. For more information please email: [enquiries@primis.nottingham.ac.uk](mailto:enquiries@primis.nottingham.ac.uk)**