National Asthma and COPD Audit Programme (NACAP)
Jargon Buster

We've created a Jargon Buster to help people who are new to the National Asthma and COPD Audit Programme (NACAP) understand some of the words, terms and acronyms that might be used in meetings or found in the materials we send you. We've made the definitions relevant to NACAP. There are lots of terms that are and aren't included here, so please don't feel embarrassed to ask what something means. Someone else in the room will most likely be thinking the same thing!

We'll regularly update this jargon buster so if there's anything you think we should add or change on this list please get in touch with the audit team at: nacap@rcp.ac.uk.

We'd like to acknowledge the British Lung Foundation (BLF) for helping with this Jargon Buster. The explanations of terms that have an Asterix (*) next to them have been taken directly from BLF patient handbook, 'Your guide to getting your voice heard'.[2]

Audit dataset
A list of questions that are asked in an audit.

Benchmarking
A method used to allow hospitals and services to compare the care that they are providing with other hospitals and services, and the national average. The measurement used will be appropriate to the type of audit and the particular aspect of care e.g. % of people reviewed by a respiratory specialist within 24 hours.

BLF (British Lung Foundation)
The charity that supports people living with lung conditions in the UK.

BPT (Best Practice Tariff)
A financial incentive for hospitals in England to improve the quality of care provided for certain conditions. A BPT is available for COPD in the

2017/18 and 2018/19 financial years. English Trusts receive top-up funds if at least 60% of patients admitted for COPD exacerbations are reviewed by a specialist within 24 hours and receive a discharge bundle before leaving hospital.

British Paediatric Respiratory Society (BPRS)
An organisation that promotes respiratory health of children including those with respiratory disease. Members of the society are healthcare professionals that work in paediatric medicine.[1]

BTS (British Thoracic Society)
The charity and membership organisation that aims to improves standards of care for patients with respiratory disease, improve lung health and provide professional support to doctors,

nurses, respiratory physiotherapists, scientists and other professionals with a respiratory interest in order.[2]

Case ascertainment
Case ascertainment in NACAP means the number of patients included in the different audits as a percentage of the real number of patients that should be included in the audits.
For example, if a hospital sees 100 patients for an asthma attack, but only adds 10 patients to the audit, then the case ascertainment for the hospital is 10%.

CCG (Clinical Commissioning Group)*
A CCG is made up of GP practices with input from local clinical experts (including secondary care, mental health, community care, public health and social care). These groups will be independent statutory bodies responsible for the health budget of the community and will commission local service in both primary and secondary care.[3]

CEOs (Chief Executive Officers)
When we refer to CEOs we mean Chief Executive Officers within hospital trusts in England and health boards in Wales and Scotland.

CHI number (Community Health Index number)
Individuals registered with the NHS in Scotland have this unique patient identifier. CHI numbers are classed as confidential information.[4]

Clinical audit dataset
A clinical audit dataset (a list of questions) asks questions specifically about how a patient was treated (for example, in hospital). A clinical dataset might include questions such as '*Did the patient see a respiratory specialist?*' and '*What treatment was the patient given when they arrived at hospital?*'

Continuous audit
A continuous audit is used to support an ongoing cycle of improvement in services. The length of continuous audits varies. For NACAP, the COPD, adult asthma, paediatric asthma and pulmonary rehabilitation clinical audits will all be continuous for different amounts of time.

Co-morbidities*
A co-morbidity is one or more conditions or diseases that a person has in addition to another (main) condition or disease. The two or more conditions or diseases 'coexist' with each other.[3]

CQC (Care Quality Commission)*
Independently regulates health services (used to be done by the Healthcare Commission).[3]

Crown (Crown Informatics)
The company that runs and maintains the NACAP online web-tool (www.nacap.org.uk). Crown Informatics provide technical support to the NACAP audit team and to web-tool users.

Data linkage
In NACAP, data linkage describes the joining together of different information sources about patients. Data linkage allows for identification of important relationships and trends in the data.[5]
For instance, when we join-up two different datasets we may find out that patients who receive better care in hospital are less likely to return to hospital within a set number of days.

Declarations of Interest (DoIs)
A form called a 'Declaration of Interests' is used in NACAP to make sure that all decisions and activities carried out by NACAP group members are done in the best interests of the programme and not for any personal interests which may negatively impact the programme.

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Discharge bundles
In COPD care, discharge bundles refer to a checklist that shows the elements of care that need to take place prior to a patient leaving hospital. The checklist includes reviewing patient inhaler technique, being assessed for stop smoking support and exercise therapy (pulmonary rehabilitation) referrals.

eDRIS (electronic Data Research and Innovation Service)
In NACAP, eDRIS will form the point of contact to bring together different Scottish data sources such as hospital admission data (via the Information Services Division Scotland) and date and cause of death data (via the National Records of Scotland). eDRIS will link this data with the audit records held by NACAP to find out more information about what happened to the patients after leaving hospital.

Exacerbation*
In COPD, an exacerbation is a worsening of symptoms. It is also sometimes called a flare up or lung attack.[3]

Extraction (in primary care)
In NACAP, extraction refers to the copying of patient information from GP surgery computers in Wales for the primary care audit. Staff at the GP surgery don't add information onto an audit web-tool like hospital staff do; instead, information is automatically 'extracted' from the computer systems of participating GP surgeries.

Equity (in health)
Equity in health refers to the removal of inequalities in healthcare. Inequalities may be differences in access to healthcare and treatment for different groups of people.[6]

Governance structure
In NACAP, the governance structure refers to each of the groups that will discuss audit activities and make decisions for the audit programme. They include: NACAP Executive, NACAP Board, NACAP Patient Panel, COPD Advisory Group, Asthma Advisory Group and NACAP Research Committee.

HES (Health Episode Statistics)
A database that contains details of all hospital admissions, A&E attendances and outpatient appointments in NHS hospitals in England.[7]

HQIP (Healthcare Quality Improvement Partnership)
The Healthcare Quality Improvement Partnership is an independent organisation which promotes quality in healthcare, particularly through clinical audit.[8] NACAP is funded by HQIP to deliver the asthma and COPD audits.

ICL (Imperial College London)
Imperial College London is the university that will analyse all of the NACAP audit data for reporting.

IG (Information Governance)
The term is used to describe how information is handled and managed by an organisation. In healthcare, this refers to ensuring patient information is stored safely and securely as well as ensuring identifiable information is seen only by authorised individuals.[9]

Information Services Division Scotland (ISD)
A division of National Services Scotland, which is part of NHS Scotland, ISD provides health information and statistics, including a record of all hospital admissions in Scotland.[10]

MDs (Medical Directors)
When we refer to MDs we mean Medical Directors of hospital trusts in England and health boards in Wales and Scotland.

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NACAP (National Asthma and COPD Audit Programme)

NACAP is an audit which looks at the quality of care and services provided to people with asthma and COPD across the care pathway.

National data opt-out

A service that was introduced on 25 May 2018 to allow individuals to opt-out of their confidential NHS patient information being selected for use in research or planning activities, also including opt-out from audits.[11]

NHS Digital

The national information and technology partner to the health and social care system.[12] NACAP will apply to NHS Digital to link the audit data with other existing datasets.

NHS number

All individuals registered with the NHS in England, Wales and the Isle of Man has a unique patient identifier. [13] NHS numbers are classed as confidential patient information.

NICE (National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence)*

Provides evidence-based guidance and other products to help resolve uncertainty about which medicines, treatments, procedures and devices represent the best quality of care and that offer the best value for money for the NHS.[3]

NIV (non-invasive ventilation)*

Some people who have difficulty breathing may benefit from using a breathing machine called a ventilator. NIV doesn't require a tube to be put into the person's windpipe. Instead, they wear a mask over their nose and/or mouth, which is attached to an air pump that pushes slightly pressurised air through. This allows the person to get enough oxygen into their lungs.[3]

NWIS (NHS Wales Informatics Service)

The organisation that works with NHS Wales organisations to deliver technology and digital services. NWIS will carry out the primary care audit extraction (copying of patient information from Welsh GP surgery computers) for NACAP.[14]

ONS data (Office for National Statistics)

The Office for National Statistics (ONS) collects information about the UK economy, society and population.[15] In NACAP, ONS data will be used to link audit data with date and cause of death data.

Organisational audit dataset

An organisational dataset is an audit dataset (a list of questions) that asks specifically about how the organisation where patients are treated is run. An organisational dataset might include questions such as 'How many respiratory nurses does your hospital have?' and 'How many people were referred to your service for pulmonary rehabilitation in the last financial year?'

Parity of Esteem

Valuing mental health equally with physical health.[16]

PPI (public and patient involvement) or PPIE (public and patient involvement and engagement)

PPI or PPIE refers to the process of involving patients and the public in activities to support the design and development of projects that are for public and patient benefit.

Pilot sites

Pilot sites in NACAP will be any hospital that registers to take part in an audit 'pilot'. Audit pilots will take place for adult asthma, paediatric asthma and pulmonary rehabilitation audits to test the questions that are being asked as well as test the web-tool where the answers will be added.

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PREMs (Patient-Reported Experience Measures)

PREMs refers to information collected on patients' experiences whilst receiving care, either in hospital or in the community. PREMs are usually collected by asking patients to complete questionnaires.[17]

PROMs (Patient-Reported Outcome Measures)

PROMs refers to information collected on the patient's opinion or 'perception' of their health status and quality of life. PROMs also include patient perceptions on specific impairments or disabilities. Questionnaires are provided to patients before and after a clinical procedure/ treatment. These are used to understand whether a procedure/treatment was beneficial and safe from the point of view of the patient.[17]

Primary care*

Primary care is the first point of contact with the NHS for most people and refers to services provided by GP practices, dentists, community pharmacies and high street optometrists. About 90 per cent of people's contact with the NHS is with these services.[3]

Primary care queries

In NACAP, primary care queries refer to the statements or 'questions' that are used to take or 'extract' information from the Welsh GP surgery computers.

PR (Pulmonary rehabilitation)*

This is a course of treatment for people with lung conditions – particularly long-term conditions like COPD – designed to help them cope with breathlessness and feel stronger at the same time. It usually includes a personalised physical exercise programme and advice on lung health and coping with breathlessness.[3]

PR Accreditation (Pulmonary Rehabilitation Accreditation)

PR Accreditation, for NACAP, refers to the Pulmonary Rehabilitation Services Accreditation Scheme. The scheme allows services that provide pulmonary rehabilitation the ability to become 'accredited'. If a service becomes 'accredited' this means they have been recognised to meet a set of standards required to provide a high quality service to patients.

QI (Quality Improvement)

Quality Improvement (QI) in healthcare is the process by which teams/organisations set agreed goals to improve an area(s) of care and measure any improvement(s) in care. You can check out the Institute for Healthcare Improvement's resources on making improvements for more information at: http://www.ihi.org/resources/Pages/HowtoImprove/default.aspx

QI (Quality Improvement) Collaborative

Quality improvement collaboratives involve healthcare teams working together to develop way to improve particular areas of care.

RCP (Royal College of Physicians)

The Royal College of Physicians (RCP) is a clinically led registered charity. The RCP works to improve the diagnosis of disease and care of patients, in particular through education and training for clinicians.[18] A number of nationally funded audits, including NACAP, are run by teams at the RCP.

RCPCH (Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health)

The Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health (RCPCH) is a registered charity that works to improve child health through education and career support for paediatricians. RCPCH is also involved in programmes spanning healthcare (quality) improvement, clinical audits, research and global child health programmes.[19]

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Read Codes
A coded 'thesaurus' of clinical terms used by clinical staff to record information about a patient's diagnosis and treatment procedures on IT systems across primary and secondary care. [20]

Real-time reporting
In NACAP, real-time reporting refers to the ongoing, up-to-date presentation of audit data to hospital teams in graphs on the NACAP audit web-tool.

Reporting
In NACAP, reporting refers to the different types of ways the audit results will be displayed for different audiences.

Risk register
The NACAP risk register is an excel document which lists all the potential and actual risks which may impact the performance of NACAP in delivering its work. The risk register details how these 'risks' can be avoided and reduced.

Secondary care*
Also known as acute health care, secondary care is provided by hospitals, specialist clinics and other health care professionals who typically don't have first contact with patients. It can be either emergency care (provided at an accident and emergency unit (A&E), for example) or elective care (planned specialist medical or surgery, usually after a referral from a primary care or community health professional such as a GP).[3]

Section 251
Section 251 is a short-hand term which refers to section 251 of the National Health Service Act and its current Regulations, the Health Service (Control of Patient Information) Regulations 2002.[20] If a NACAP audit has Section 251 'approval' this allows for confidential patient information to be collected without the need for patient consent (the data controller must still comply with all other relevant legal duties such as the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and Data Protection Act).[21]

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Snapshot audit
A snapshot audit is one that is hosted for a set period of time, usually longer than a continuous audit. Only information that is collected during the set timeframe will be analysed and reported on as the audit is reporting on what is happening at that particular time point. For NACAP, the COPD, adult asthma, paediatric asthma and pulmonary rehabilitation organisational audits are all snapshot audits.

Spirometry*
This is a type of breathing test to assess how well your lungs work. Spirometry measures your 'forced expiratory volume in one second' (FEV1) – how much air you can breathe out from your lungs in the first second of breathing out. It can help tell whether your breathing is obstructed by narrowing of the bronchial tubes, as found in asthma and COPD. 'Post-bronchodilator' spirometry refers to when this breathing test is done after someone has had two puffs of the inhaler they use to relieve their symptoms (a bronchodilator medication).[3]

Stakeholders
Any individual, group or organisation that has an interest in NACAP and its work, or should be made aware of the audit programme.

Strategy
A set of intended actions which are planned to achieve a set of goals or targets for NACAP.[22]

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