



**shaping health**  
international

## The Productive Operating Theatre

### What is it?

The Productive Operating Theatre is a module based improvement programme developed by the NHS Institute for Improvement specifically designed to drive significant improvements for staff and patients within the operating theatre environment. It helps theatre teams to work more effectively together to improve the quality of patient experience, the safety and outcomes of surgical services and the efficient use of resources.

Supported by Shaping Health International, The Productive Operating Theatre enables teams to improve safety and quality in their operating theatre whilst delivering significant financial savings for your organisation.



*Anaesthetist, Keith Johnson and Lois Lincoln, Senior Operating Department Practitioner at Gateshead NHS Foundation Trust, who have used The Productive Operating Theatre to improve start times*



*"It has laid the cultural foundations for us to be able to try new things" - Simon Walsh, Head of Procurement and E-Commerce at Greater Manchester University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust.*

### How does it work?

The Productive Operating Theatre utilises a proven approach of involving and enabling frontline theatre teams to transform the way they work, bringing about a culture change in how operating theatre staff think and operate.

With the support of Shaping Health International, a designated Programme Lead for your organisation will manage the implementation of the programme with involvement of multidisciplinary teams within the operating theatre. The programme will begin with implementation of the Foundation modules, which provide immediate usable improvements which underpin the next phase of the programme. Team-working and Scheduling are required as the transformational modules which link closely to process modules. The carefully structured sequence of modules is designed to allow the growth of a culture dedicated to the improvement of safety, quality of care and efficiency.

# Programme Structure

The Productive Operating Theatre is comprised of two leader's guides, 11 modules and a toolkit. The diagram above illustrates how the programme should build up sequentially by starting with the Foundation modules, then the Enablers and finally the Process modules.



## What are the key benefits?

Successful implementation of the Productive Operating Theatre can deliver the following benefits:

- Reduced patient waiting times and improved patient experience
- Improved safety and reliability of care and reduced errors
- Better team-working, improved staff wellbeing and staff safety
- An improvement in start times, reduced overruns and an increase in patient turnaround

By focusing on improving the quality of care, these improvements will bring about significant financial benefits for your organisation. For example, in the first 12 months of implementing The Productive Operating Theatre, University Hospitals Bristol NHS Foundation Trust saved £2 million through reducing waiting lists.

## Who are Shaping Health International?

Shaping Health International has been created specifically to provide transformational solutions in the health and social care system.

Our highly experienced team of healthcare advisors assist commissioners, providers, regional and strategic bodies and local authorities to understand, plan for and deliver the changes envisaged in the new policy framework – helping to establish new strategies and processes whilst continuing to deliver required targets.

## Contact Us

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**Shaping Health International is a joint venture between Entrusted Health and Francis Group.**

For more information on the Productive Operating Theatre and other programmes in the productive series, please visit the NHS Institute for Improvement and Innovation. [www.institute.nhs.uk](http://www.institute.nhs.uk)