



NCHA Position Statements

Implementation of the findings of the Hackett Report and Hackett compliance

Dated 27th October 2013

Background:

NCHA members seek to provide patient centered homecare services that are safe, cost effective and ensure seamless integrated patient care. The NCHA and wider industry stakeholders have been fully engaged and committed to the practical implementation of the key findings of the Hackett Report. However, as time has passed, workgroups activities have progressed and priorities have shifted. It is, therefore, no longer appropriate to consider “Hackett Compliance” solely in the context of the original Hackett Report in isolation.

DH sponsored review of the NHS Homecare Medicines in England by Mark Hackett began in November 2010 culminating in the publication of the report “Towards a Vision for the Future”, published on the 2 December 2011. The NCHA was supportive of this review and fully engaged in the consultation process.

Following the publication of the report, Mark Hackett was asked to form and Chair the DH Homecare Strategy Board with the remit of implementing the findings of the Hackett Report. The Strategy Board Members are recognized experts from NHS providers, purchasers, commissioners and industry (represented by ABPI, BGMA and NCHA).

Six workgroups were established by the DH Homecare Strategy Board as follows

- Systems
- Standards
- Patient engagement
- Governance
- Procurement
- Gain Share (NHS only)

NCHA were represented on the five joint industry/NHS workgroups and co-chaired the Systems and Standards Workgroups.

The Professional Standards for Homecare developed by the Standards Workgroup were adopted and published by the Royal Pharmaceutical Society (RPS) in September 2013.

This industry position statement was commissioned by the NCHA Board to set out the industry position regarding the implementation of the recommendations in the Hackett report and specifically for commissioners seeking to include a requirement for the homecare provider to be “Hackett Compliant” within their tender specification, contracts or services level agreements.

NCHA Position Statements:

The NCHA considers any reference to “Hackett Compliance” or similar to mean compliance with the RPS Professional Standard for Homecare.

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The RPS Professional Standard for Homecare is the first, and currently the only, substantive output from the Hackett Workgroups. The drafting and approval of the Homecare Standards was co-ordinated with the other workgroups and therefore this Standard embodies all the key principles that underpin all other planned workgroup outputs.

NCHA is committed to working with NHS commissioners and providers to efficiently, effectively and safely manage homecare services in accordance with the RPS Professional Standard for Homecare.

The challenges relating to implementation of the RPS Professional Homecare Standards lay primarily within the remit of commissioners, purchasing authorities and NHS pharmacy teams. In most cases, NCHA members are already compliant or compliance requires only minor changes to existing processes and procedures. NCHA members are committed to working in partnership with NHS commissioning and provider organisations to ensure robust and efficient medicines pathways are in place covering the whole patient journey and to ensure excellent patient experience of the fully integrated and seamless homecare service.

NCHA fully supports commissioners who include compliance with the RPS Professional Standard for Homecare within their service specification.

NCHA members seek to provide patient centered homecare services that are safe, cost effective and ensure seamless integrated patient care. NCHA welcomes the new national standard, which covers the entire medicine pathway irrespective of which organisation provides each element of the service. NCHA believes the implementation of the RPS Professional Standard for Homecare will

- improve consistency in the standards of homecare provision for patients
- facilitate partnership working to ensure robust, efficient and integrated homecare processes
- improve the patient experience and increase patient choice
- optimize medicines use and clinical outcomes
- realize the anticipated cost savings to the health economy

Commissioners must ensure commercial arrangements allow appropriate levels of resources to be engaged within NHS provider organisations.

The separation of commissioners and providers within the NHS has increased the complexity of procurement of homecare services. NHS provider organisations that retain clinical responsibility for the homecare patients often outsource provision of homecare services to NCHA members. Commissioners must ensure commercial arrangements allow appropriate levels of resources to be engaged within NHS provider organisations. Clinical and administration resources must be in place to allow effective and efficient management of the homecare services in addition to the direct outsourcing costs. NCHA members are committed to providing the necessary support and assistance to NHS commissioning and provider organisations to implement the provisions of the Homecare Standard.

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