S. Ibish, H. Al-Hasani, K. Collins and M. Davison – Buckinghamshire NHS Trust

**Introduction:**
- The Foundation Forum in the Buckinghamshire provides an arena for foundation doctors to pursue quality improvement projects to proactively address important issues.
- Originally founded to provide foundation doctor representation at senior management level, the Foundation Forum now aims to engender a culture of safety and productivity amongst junior doctors.
- Whilst it can be a particularly daunting prospect for juniors to raise concerns about the quality of patient care, a system of peer representation can encourage and support such discussions in a confidential environment.

**Methods:**
- In Buckinghamshire NHS Trust, regular meetings of the eight elected forum members with a Foundation Training Programme Director were held.
- We discussed issues and concerns raised by junior doctors regarding any aspect of patient safety, clinical governance or foundation training.
- We aimed to identify novel solutions and allow trainees’ voices to be heard at a senior management level.
- Our progress was regularly fed back to trainees.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project</th>
<th>Problem</th>
<th>Solution</th>
<th>Culture change</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Acute handbook</td>
<td>Complex structure within department of acute medicine. Roles, responsibilities, contacts and how to do certain tasks unclear to juniors.</td>
<td>&quot;solving the problem gap&quot;</td>
<td>Encouraging patient safety by ensuring awareness of team structure &amp; function, emergency procedures and appropriate communication</td>
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<tr>
<td>Acute medicine rota</td>
<td>Only junior covering medical wards during evening due to finish one hour before night handover</td>
<td>After lengthy discussion, rota changed to allow ward cover FY1 to attend night handover</td>
<td>Increased emphasis on importance of safe handover</td>
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<tr>
<td>Audit list</td>
<td>All FY doctors required to undertake audit. Would prefer it to be useful and relevant</td>
<td>Audit list obtained and added to Forum website so easily accessible to FY doctors</td>
<td>Better use of time and skills. Encourages culture of learning &amp; patient safety rather than “audit for the sake of audit”</td>
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<tr>
<td>T&amp;O induction</td>
<td>Lots of new juniors working in a new area with little senior support and no induction</td>
<td>New juniors’ induction requested, designed and implemented</td>
<td>Emphasis on appropriate induction &amp; support, and safe working practices</td>
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| Individual departmental concerns | Addressed with individual department leads and local solutions found | Encourage culture of learning and patient safety rather than simply addressing Trust’s service requirements |

**Results:**
- There has been frequent discussion of issues relevant to foundation trainees in Bucks.
- Awareness of the Forum has improved over the year, with increased feedback of issues and concerns.
- A large array of issues have been addressed and innovative solutions found.

**Key Messages:**
- A system of peer representation, promoting openness and transparency, empowers junior doctors to voice their concerns about patient safety and training issues.
- A collaborative approach to problem solving which includes junior doctors has resulted in positive change within the Trust.

“Junior doctors in training will not just be seen as clinical leaders of tomorrow, but leaders of today” Sir Bruce Keogh.

**References:** Review into the quality of care and treatment provided by 14 hospital trusts in England: overview report. Professor Sir Bruce Keogh KBE. July 2013.