



# **Quality & Safety Dialogues**

- evaluation of a Swedish patient safety culture intervention**

**Hans Rutberg, MD, PhD, Chief Medical Officer  
County Council of Östergötland**

**Contact: [hans.rutberg@lio.se](mailto:hans.rutberg@lio.se)**



# Background

- **Patient safety leadership walk round (PSLWR) is an intervention aimed at improving safety culture in hospitals**
- **In the County Council in Östergötland, Sweden a comprehensive patient safety program was implemented in 2000**
- **Since 2005 one intervention of this program is the Quality & Patient Safety Dialogue (QPSD) inspired by PSLWR**



# Purpose

- **To describe a Swedish PSLWR adaptation implemented in a County Council with three hospitals**
- **The intervention was evaluated by an instrument based on the Manchester Patient Safety Assessment Framework (MaPSaF)**



# Methods

- **All 37 somatic care departments and 13 psychiatric care departments participated in the QPSD intervention.**
- **From the department, the leadership and employees working with patient safety and quality participated**
- **From the Patient safety unit a team consisting a chief medical officer, a facilitator with expertise in patient safety and a hygiene nurse participated**
- **The discussion was based around a structured list of questions covering three areas: Hospital-Acquired Infections (HAI); Outcome Measurement (OM); and General Patient Safety (GPS)**



# Methods

- **The assessment was based on a consensus discussion among the QPS-team.**
- **Each of the areas HAI, OM, GPS was scored on a scale from 1 to 5**
  - 1= None or little ongoing activities at all in quality and patient safety**
  - 5= Very well developed and fully implemented way of working in quality and patient safety**
- **A QPSD cycle for each department is 18 months.**



# Results

	Average score Round 1	Average score Round 2	Average score Round 3
	Somatic care		
HAI (n=32)	2,6	3,0	3,2
OM (n=37)	2,3	2,9	3,2
GPS (n=37)	1,9	2,9	3,4
	Psychiatric care		
OM (n=13)	1,8	1,6	2,2
GPS (n=13)	1,4	1,7	2,1



# Conclusions

- **A recurrent dialogue using a structured protocol seems to be a useful method for improving safety culture and for the follow-up of quality and patient safety initiatives**
- **Several other regions in Sweden have adopted this way of working**