CLINICAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT		
VERSION No	**3**	
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1. The Statement

a) This organisation embraces the concept that 'clinical governance' is a framework which helps all clinicians – including nurses to continuously improve quality and safeguard standards of care by creating an environment in which excellence in clinical care will flourish.

b) Clinical governance aims to integrate all the activities that impact on service user care into one strategy. This involves:
   - ✔ *improving the quality of information*
   - ✔ *promoting collaboration, team working and partnerships*
   - ✔ *reducing variations in practice*
   - ✔ *implementing evidence based practice*

c) The organisation recognises that 'Clinical governance' is an umbrella term for everything that:
   i. helps maintain and improve high standards of service user care
   ii. covers a whole range of quality improvement activities that many nurses are already undertaking for example clinical audit and practice development
   iii. also provides a framework to draw these activities together in a more co-ordinated way

d) *The sections of this framework therefore are set out under the following key headings, which have been adopted from the Department of Health (DoH) reporting framework for clinical governance (DoH, 2003):*
   i. **risk management**
   ii. **supporting nurses in the work place**
   iii. **quality improvement in action**
   iv. **placing service users experience at the heart of health care**

2. The framework:

a) *Risk management is about minimising risks to service users by:*
   i. *identifying what can and does go wrong during care*
   ii. *understanding the factors that influence this*
   iii. *learning lessons from any adverse events*
   iv. *ensuring action is taken to prevent recurrence*
   v. *putting systems in place to reduce risks*
   vi. *ensuring information works for you recognising the importance of the flow of information in safeguarding service users*

b) **Supporting Nurses and staff in the workplace**
   i. *Staffing and staff management is vital to our ability to provide high-quality care.*
   ii. *We need to have highly skilled staff, working in an efficient team and in a well-supported environment.*
   iii. *Education, training and continuing professional development*
   iv. *It is vital that nursing and all staff caring for service users have the knowledge and skills they need to do a good job. It is for that reason that they are given opportunities to update their skills to keep up with the latest developments as well as learn new skills and work effectively with other visiting health professionals.*

c) **Quality improvement in action**
   i. *Evidence-based care and effectiveness*
   ii. *Care, based on good quality evidence from research*

     iii.   **The National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) is responsible for providing national guidance on the promotion of good health and the prevention and treatment of ill health.**

     iv.   **Effective monitoring and auditing processes**

d) Clinical audit

     i.   *Clinical audit is a way that healthcare professionals can measure the quality of the care they offer.*

     ii.   *It allows them to compare their performance against a standard to see how they are doing and identify opportunities for improvement.*

     iii.   *Changes can then be made, followed by further audits to see if these changes have been successful.*

     iv.   *As an organisation we may be called upon from time to time to participate in national audits*

e) Placing service users experience at the heart of health care

As an organisation, we want to offer the highest quality care and recognise the importance of working with service users and carers. This includes:

     i.   *gaining a better understanding of the priorities and concerns of those who use our services by involving them in our work, including our policy and planning.*

     ii.   *We gain the views of service users and carers is through our meetings and feedback*

     iii.   *We also monitor the views of patients through complaints and compliments Staffing and staff management*