

# PEER REVIEW OF SPECIALISED PAEDIATRIC ENDOCRINOLOGY SERVICES IN THE UK - EVALUATION OF THE OUTCOMES

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## Introduction

The BSPED Peer review programme was first initiated in 2011 to provide a regular cycle of independent impartial professional assessment, against quality standards for Specialised Paediatric Endocrine Services (SPES) in the UK.<sup>1</sup>

We present here an evaluation of the outcomes from the first review cycle completed in 2017.

All SPES reported that the quality standards were appropriate, the assessment from the review process was fair and it motivated engagement in quality improvements.

However, one SPES reported no impact owing to lack of support from the hospital senior management team.

From the post-review questionnaire, 21 SPES found the review process useful in identifying developments and implementing quality improvements.

## Methods

For details of the process of peer review please see our other poster (RFC14-2). A Peer Review Officer was appointed by the BSPED to oversee the planning and delivery of this programme.

We examined pre-review self-assessment and post-review questionnaires (SAQ) completed by the SPES lead.

We also reviewed final Peer Review assessment reports completed by the BSPED Peer Reviewers from each SPES.

The reports showed whether standards were met, unmet or exceeded (very good practice).

## Results

Table 1. Summary of Outcomes

Number of tertiary centres in the UK	England 18, Scotland 2, Wales 1, Northern Ireland 1
Total population served by centres	median 2.6 x10 <sup>6</sup> , range 1-8 x10 <sup>6</sup>
Number of total consultations (new + follow-up) per year	median 1810, range 779 - 6738
Number of new patient consultations per year	median 379, range 160 - 1354
Number of day cases per year	median 211, range 80 - 1300
Number of criteria (n=54) in the Standards met	median 43, range 30-49

Table 2. Centre Post Peer Review Feedback (n=21)

Post Review Questions	Yes	Partly	No
The process of Peer Review entails evaluating services against 54 essential and desirable criteria derived from the BSPED standards. Were these standards appropriate for reviewing your tertiary service?	15	6	0
You will recall that you completed a self-evaluation questionnaire in advance of the Peer Review visit. Did this self-evaluation enable you to reflect on the performance of your service against the BSPED standards?	18	3	0
The final Peer Review Report was intended to be a fair assessment of your service. Do you agree this was the case?	18	3	0
Did the entire Peer Review process and outcome motivate your team to engage in quality improvements?	15	5	1
Did the outcome from the Peer Review reinforce your local efforts in quality improvements to your service?	13	5	3
Has the Peer Review been of benefit to your service?	14	4	3
Has the Peer Review been of benefit to the patients served by your service?	11	6	4

## Conclusions

This BSPED activity aimed at promoting the quality of SPES in the UK demonstrates the feasibility and acceptability of establishing a nationwide Peer Review programme.

The results illustrate the considerable variation in the size of the 22 SPES, which may be a factor in quality of services provided.

The review process was helpful in supporting service developments for the majority of centres.

This BSPED Peer Review programme has contributed to promoting the quality of 80% SPES and the care they provide for children and young people with endocrine disorders within the UK National Health Service. To enable appropriate action plans from the final report and recommendations, it is vital that these are presented to the medical and health care professionals of the SPES, but also to the Senior Management Team.

Experience from this first cycle, evidence, best practices and recommendations will be used by BSPED to redefine SPES standards and to inform the next peer review cycle.

## References

<sup>1</sup>BSPED. UK Standards for Paediatric Endocrinology, 2010. <https://www.bsped.org.uk/media/1370/bspedpaediatricendocrinestandardsvs130710.pdf>

