



Topic Exploration Report

Topic explorations are designed to provide a high-level briefing on new topics submitted for consideration by Health Technology Wales. The main objectives of this report are to:

1. Determine the quantity and quality of evidence available for a technology of interest.
2. Identify any gaps in the evidence/ongoing evidence collection.
3. Inform decisions on topics that warrant fuller assessment by Health Technology Wales.

Topic:	Lantum workforce management system
Topic exploration report number:	TER075

Introduction and aims

Lantum is a computerised workforce management system which can connect clinicians to available shifts as well as automating numerous processes. Lantum has the potential for benefits to the NHS by more efficiently using the workforce and reducing the need for agency workers. Health Technology Wales researchers searched for evidence on the use of the Lantum workforce management system.

Summary of findings

Lantum is a digital health technology and was determined to be a Tier 1 technology according to the NICE Evidence Standards Framework for Digital Health Technologies. This indicates that Lantum has potential system benefits but no measurable effect on patient outcomes. Lantum was also determined to be 'high risk' because of the high financial or organisational impact and the seriousness of the consequences if Lantum failed to perform as described. This high risk status increases the standard of evidence required within the framework ('best practice' evidence standards must be met rather than the minimum standards).

No published evidence was identified on the use of the Lantum workforce management system. Supporting evidence was provided by the topic proposer in the form of presentations reporting on the use of the Lantum system in Sutton GP services and Salford Primary Care. These case studies compare outcomes, such as session fill rate, before and after the Lantum system was introduced. Details of the case studies are fairly limited and so a full appraisal of methodological quality would not be possible.

There is also evidence to suggest that the Lantum system has credibility with UK health and social care professionals. There are testimonials from GPs on the Lantum website and in the presentations provided by the topic proposer. Likewise, website testimonials provide evidence of the acceptability of the Lantum system with its users who find it to be useful and successful.

No published cost-effectiveness evidence was identified. However, the developers of the Lantum system suggest that it could have significant cost savings as it reduces the need for agency workers by using the workforce more efficiently (a 30% reduction is claimed by manufacturer). The Lantum technology itself is free and so there is unlikely to be a significant cost associated with introducing the software. However, there may be some costs associated with training to use the software.

Areas of uncertainty

No published evidence was identified on the use of the Lantum workforce management system and there is therefore considerable uncertainty around the effectiveness and economic implications of using the system.

Conclusions

The current evidence base for the Lantum system was not considered sufficient for a full appraisal to be conducted. The evidence base consists primarily of case studies in which the Lantum system has been introduced and these are not reported in the level of detail required for an appraisal of methodology. No published economic evidence on the use of the Lantum system was identified.

Brief literature search results

Resource	Results
HTA organisations	
Healthcare Improvement Scotland:	We did not identify any relevant guidance from this source
Health Technology Assessment Group	We did not identify any relevant guidance from this source
Health Information and Quality Authority	We did not identify any relevant guidance from this source
UK guidelines and guidance	
SIGN	We did not identify any relevant guidance from this source
NICE	We did not identify any relevant guidance from this source
Secondary literature and economic evaluations	
ECRI	We did not identify any relevant evidence from this source
Cochrane library	We did not identify any relevant evidence from this source
Medline	We did not identify any relevant evidence from this source
Primary studies	
Medline	We did not identify any relevant evidence from this source
Cochrane library	We did not identify any relevant evidence from this source

Date of search:	May 2019
Concepts used:	Lantum, workforce management system