

Summer Vacation Studentship 2016

The King's Health Partners faculty of healthcare improvement is pleased to launch the 2016 summer studentships. They will support students up to £250 per week for up to four weeks.

This opportunity provides invaluable experience of working with patient safety quality improvement projects and should be of interest to any student who wishes to develop their health profession career in areas related to patient safety and quality improvement within the university and NHS sectors.

Interested students are encouraged to regularly visit the King's Health Partners website to view available projects.

Please fill in the fields below and send the form to educationacademy@kcl.ac.uk. Students will be able to see the project entry on the King's Health Partners website (www.kingshealthpartners.org).

Students will be allocated to projects on a first come first served basis.

Thank you for supporting the King's Health Partners faculty of healthcare improvement summer vacation studentships.

Title	Safer Surgery Saves Lives
Background	<p>In 2010 the World Health Organisation launched a Safer Surgery Checklist following research which demonstrated that effective implementation of the checklist was associated with concomitant reductions in the rates of death and complications among patients at least 16 years of age who were undergoing non-cardiac surgery in a diverse group of hospitals [A Surgical Safety Checklist to Reduce Morbidity and Mortality in a Global Population NEJM 2009;360:491-9].</p> <p>In recent years, KCH has had a series of incidents in theatres which have resulted in patient harm which investigation suggested could have been avoided through effective implementation of the Safer Surgery Checklist.</p> <p>Audits of the checklist documentation demonstrated a very high rate of completion of the Safer Surgery Checklist. However, investigation, staff feedback and observational audits suggested that the <i>quality</i> of the checks undertaken can be sup-optimal at times. The Trust recognises that the only way of measuring the quality of the checks which are completed is through continuous observational audit.</p>
Aims of the project	To train a cohort of Surgical Safety Assessors who will be able to undertake observational assessments of the 'Sign In', 'Time Out' and 'Sign Out' components of the Safer Surgery Checklist.

	<p>To perform a thorough assessment of the quality of the checks undertaken as part of the Safer Surgery Checklist across the whole range of surgical and interventional procedures offered at KCH. This will include commentary on team dynamics, human factors and effective communication strategies.</p> <p>To identify areas of good practice and poor performance in each surgical/interventional speciality.</p>			
Objectives (e.g. Assess prevalence of smoking in medical school and submit for publication based on success of project)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Assess and document the quality of checks which are undertaken as part of the safer surgery checklist in each surgical and interventional speciality in KCH through presence in theatre for the duration of the procedure. - To provide a formal report detailing the results of the observational assessment to the Trust's Patient Safety Committee including recommendations for improvement 			
Skills to be acquired (e.g. Data analysis, ELISA, PCR, Literature review, etc.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A thorough understanding of the theory and practice behind the Safer Surgery Checklist - Training in patient safety, clinical governance and serious incident investigation. - Training in human factors and communication techniques - Exposure to a huge range of surgical and interventional techniques and the staff who deliver them - Data analysis - Production of Trust Board Level Reports 			
Project Type (Please mark with "X")	Audit (x)	Lab based ()	Review ()	Other ()
Start Date and expected duration of the project	July or August 2016 for 4 weeks *Can be flexible depending on the applicant.			
Project Description and Supervisor Contact Details	Safer Surgery Saves Lives – an observational audit.			