

## Summary: Intervention & Options

Department /Agency: Department of Health, Elective Care and Diagnostics	Title: Impact Assessment of Delivering enhanced recovery - helping patients get better sooner after surgery	
Stage: Implementation	Version: 7.0	Date: 12/03/10
Related Publications:		

Available to view or download at:

<http://www.18weeks.nhs.uk/content.aspx?path=/achieve-and-sustain/Transforming-and-improving/enhanced-recovery/>

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High quality care needs to be delivered in a more affordable way and enhanced recovery model of care is proven to do this. Public spending is under increasing pressure and the NHS needs to identify efficiency savings that can be made whilst improving quality. Enhanced recovery does this. Government intervention is necessary as the capability and capacity to implement enhanced recovery creates many benefits; improved patients' experience & clinical outcomes (patients fitter sooner), dramatic length of stay reductions and reduced waiting times, all of which can be realised across the NHS.

What are the policy objectives and the intended effects?

To introduce the enhanced recovery elective care pathway across the NHS with the aim of optimising patients' health and experience and at the same time demonstrate improved benefits for both the patients and the NHS. These include improved patient experience, improved clinical outcomes/ reduced postoperative complications and a reduced length of hospital stay, which in itself brings many other benefits such as a reduced exposure to hospital-acquired infections. The benefits to the NHS include supporting delivery of key standards such as modernised elective care, cancer reform strategy and the quality and productivity challenge with significant length of stay reductions and supporting primary care trusts commissioning improved elective care services for their patients.

What policy options have been considered? Please justify any preferred option.

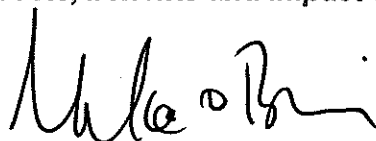
- 1: Retain the status quo, ie. there is no change in the current level of adoption of enhanced recovery principles within the NHS in England and patients are not given the opportunity to experience surgery in an optimal way that improves their experiences, enables them to be fitter sooner, return to work more quickly and reduces post operative complications that facilitate early discharge (reaping capacity benefits for the NHS).
- 2: (Preferred) Publish the 'Delivering enhanced recovery - helping patients to get better after surgery' learning from sites with experience of enhanced recovery across the UK; this will support the NHS to adopt enhanced recovery principles in the 8 major surgical procedures.

When will the policy be reviewed to establish the actual costs and benefits and the achievement of the desired effects? A full review of the policy will be undertaken in April 2013 – 3 years after the launch events for the ERP guidance – using Hospital Episodes Statistics (HES) data. Periodic assessments of the policy using local data will be made prior to the full review.

**Ministerial Sign-off** For SELECT STAGE Impact Assessments:

*I have read the Impact Assessment and I am satisfied that (a) it represents a fair and reasonable view of the expected costs, benefits and impact of the policy and (b) the benefits justify the costs.*

Signed by the responsible Minister:



Date:

29/3/10