



AI summary

Place-based outcome reinvestment model in action: how a neighbourhood and acute trust built a real funding left shift

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Moderator: George Johnston

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Summary

The session explored the implementation of a place-based outcome reinvestment model aimed at redistributing healthcare funding from acute hospital settings to community care without destabilising the system. Sharn Stanley outlined the model's foundation in mechanism design, emphasising the need to incentivise all partners, including acute trusts, to prioritise outcomes over activity. The presentation highlighted the importance of defining shared outcomes, pooling resources, and reinvesting savings into community services to enhance patient care and efficiency.

The discussion also detailed the role of linked data and analytics in driving the model's success. Sam Williamson explained how integrating datasets across primary, secondary, and social care allows for better understanding of population needs and outcomes. This data-driven approach shifts the focus from activity metrics to outcome-based commissioning, enabling evidence-based decision-making. Challenges such as attribution of outcomes and fostering trust among stakeholders were noted but addressed through transparency and collaborative relationships.

Thom Lafferty underscored the necessity of systemic change for sustainability, citing financial and operational pressures faced by acute trusts. He highlighted the collaborative approach in West Essex, where acute and community providers work together, leveraging tools like the Integrated Urgent Treatment Centre as catalysts for broader transformation. The panel collectively acknowledged barriers such as rigid contractual frameworks and regulatory constraints, advocating for more flexible, integrated systems to align funding flows with shared goals and long-term impact. The session concluded with a call for continued innovation and scaling of the model to improve outcomes across the healthcare system.





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Takeaways

Mechanism design can align funding with outcomes to support community care

The session highlighted the use of mechanism design to create a place-based outcome reinvestment model that incentivises integrated care providers, including acute trusts, to focus on outcomes rather than activity. This approach ensures funding is redistributed effectively, reducing hospital admissions while enhancing community-based care.

Data-driven insights enable outcome-focused commissioning

Speakers emphasised the value of linked person-level datasets for understanding population health needs and measuring outcomes. This data infrastructure facilitated evidence-based decision-making, enabling commissioners and providers to align resources with population needs and shared goals.

Collaborative leadership is critical for system-wide change

The panel stressed the importance of parity and collaboration among stakeholders, including acute trusts, primary care, and community services. Strong relationships, shared accountability, and collective decision-making helped address systemic challenges and fostered trust among partners.

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