In Q4 2016, the National Acute Medicine Programme (NAMP) staff were busy programme planning for 2017. Over the next few months, we will be updating you on the plans of the programme and the progress we have made.

A particular area that the NAMP team have been looking at is the ICT advancements for the Acute Floor, incorporating ED, AMAU and other acute assessment units for surgery, children, psychiatry, etc.

The National Acute Medicine Programme, is playing a central role in shaping and developing ICT systems that will improve patient experience, safety and facilitate a reduction in trolley counts and average length of stay in acute hospitals.

The National Quality Assurance and Improvement System (NQAIS) Clinical is a quality improvement programme that will analyse aggregated HIPE data into meaningful clinical categories. It can be used to clearly demonstrate the impact of the NAMP and other National Clinical Programmes on patient care in terms of reduced length of stay and bed days saved. NQAIS Clinical facilitates evidence based decision making to improve the quality performance of hospitals and encourage adoption of best practice and the National Clinical Programmes Models of Care. The NAMP has been heavily involved in the design and development of both NQAIS Medicine and Clinical with representation on the Design Authority, Steering Group and Working Group. NQAIS Clinical will commence national implementation during Q1 2017.

The NAMP is also integral to the design and development of the forthcoming Acute Floor Information System (AFIS). This system will provide for the real time electronic recording of patient interventions in Emergency Departments, Acute Medical Assessment Units, Acute Surgical Assessment Units and Injury Units, resulting in a paper-lite environment for all unscheduled care provision in acute hospitals that currently have little or no functional systems capable of tracking and monitoring attendances. The NAMP team are contributing to the AFIS design by representation on the project team, developing the business case and requirements specification. It is expected that AFIS will move to the procurement stage in quarter 1, 2017 with a pilot site implementation by the end of the year.