

To Trust Chief Executives and Medical Directors

Date: 27th February 2014

Gateway Reference 01230

Dear Colleagues,

Attached to this letter is a request from the High-intensity Specialist Led Acute Care (HiSLAC) project team for your Trust to participate in this important research initiative.

The HiSLAC project, funded by the NIHR, will investigate specialist-led care in hospitals at weekends as a key component of NHS England's seven day services policy initiative.

The HiSLAC project team, led by Professor Julian Bion, are asking that you identify a senior physician to act as local project lead, helping to obtain simple and non-identifiable data on specialist involvement in the care of acutely ill patients admitted at weekends. Additional resources are not required for participation.

The HiSLAC project has the strong support of NHS England's Medical Directorate, the Academy of Medical Royal Colleges, and the NHS Confederation. We hope that you too will support this research to help evaluate our efforts to improve patient care seven days a week across the NHS.

Yours sincerely,



Professor Sir Bruce Keogh
Medical Director
NHS England



Professor Terence Stephenson
Chair, Academy of
Medical Royal Colleges



Mr. Rob Webster
Chief Executive Officer,
NHS Confederation

