



MASHnet Summary of initial activities

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Cardiff - MASHnet Workshop
3rd April 2006



Initial Events

1. Launch Event
 - Warwick, September 2005
 - Geoff Royston, Ruth Davies, Mark Elder, Simon Dods
2. Workshop with NHS Confederation
 - London, March 2006
 - Nigel Edwards, Simon Dodds, Peter Millard, Dave Bensley



Initial Events: Purpose

- Networking!
- Articulate the aims and activities of MASHnet
- Identify barriers and enablers for modelling and simulation in health care
- Express some potential needs for modelling



Launch event



- Geoff Royston - Big Challenges
 - Accelerate flexibility and responsiveness of tools
 - See modelling as a partner to experimentation
 - Focus on *application*
- Ruth Davies – honest academic
 - Pros and cons of academic's role
 - Importance of clear goals and perspectives
- Mark Elder – the industry perspective
 - Lessons from other sectors
 - Crucial to have modelling EARLY in design
- Simon Dodds – obligate man of action
 - Win-win-win
 - Design the best process using modelling as a flexible test-bed



Launch event group work

	HEALTH SERVICES	ACADEMICS	INDUSTRY
Why important?	<p>...my interpretation of group work responses</p> <p>...see report on the MASHnet website</p> <p>www.mashnet.org.uk</p>		
What obstacles?			
What actions?			
Key Issues?			



Why Important?

- Health services
 - Improve effectiveness and efficiency

**EVIDENCE
BASED
MANAGEMENT**

- Avoid “gut feeling”



What obstacles?

- Health Services
 - Awareness and culture

"No common language"

- Complexity of NHS and decision processes
- Applicability of tools



What actions?

- Health Services
 - Champions + top level commitment

Top level commitment + Success stories

- Find successful examples
- Build strategic relationships



Key Issues

- Health Services
 - Time

Collaboration Sustainability

- Industry
 - Firefighting vs strategic development
 - Sustainability

The Big Idea

Name: _____

Write your best idea for something (action, policy change, strategy etc) that would improve the application of modelling and simulation in the health services.
Place this in the 'BIG IDEA' collection box for the draw at the end of the launch event.



Big Ideas

- Promulgate success stories
 - Target key decision makers with competition
 - HSJ Award?
 - Hands on sessions
 - Keep it local
- Increase pressure for planning to incorporate modelling (i.e. be planning and not performance management)
- Potential role of NHS R&D
- Training for NHS users and modellers



NHS Confederation Workshop

1. Plenaries – practical applications to whet the appetite!
2. Barriers to use of modelling:
 - Capacity
 - Perceived value
 - No experience
 - No tools
 - Poor data
 - "Perma-change"
 - Communication between key professional groups



Current "modellable" problems

- Walk In Centres
- A&E "Frequent Flyers"
- Obtaining Foundation Trust status
- Practice Based Commissioning



Observations

- Problems expressed in fairly nebulous terms
- Not unique to management challenges
- Lack of understanding of potential for solution makes it difficult to frame the problem in the "right" way
- Solution = collaboration early
- Timescales are challenging...



Overall

- Encouraging interest in MASHnet
- Collaboration with existing organisations and groups
- Common themes around barriers and opportunities for modelling
- Broad validation of the approaches suggested in MASHnet proposal
- Now for some meat on the bones...