

Spotlights on healthcare improvement

To help translate the 2026 NAIF report findings into action, NAIF has identified four priority areas for healthcare improvement, referred to as ‘Spotlights’. These spotlights highlight where trusts and health boards (HBs) can focus improvement activity to support better care for patients.

Spotlight on healthcare improvement 1

Trusts and health boards to develop systems to enable audit data to be easily visible within a patient’s healthcare records.

Clear visibility within healthcare records of the information required for completing a NAIF case is important, not only because it improves completion of the audit, but also it reflects the importance of this information to patient care. An example being that if the most recent lying/standing blood pressure (LSBP) reading cannot be easily accessed, evidence of orthostatic hypotension may be missed, and blood pressure management may be delayed or omitted from care. All clinicians involved in patient care should be able to easily access this information to support decision making.

For several years, NAIF has collected LSBP and 4AT measurements with the aim of using these data to inform KPI 1, replacing the current question on whether an assessment or task was completed. We would like to see future improvements in the data in Tables 3a, 3b and 3c, so KPI 1 can be underpinned by stronger data.

Spotlight on healthcare improvement 2

Trusts and health boards to review fall prevention processes in emergency departments (EDs).

While there are relatively few injurious falls recorded in EDs, most patients did not receive a high-quality MASA. Implementing plans to prevent falls is extremely challenging in EDs and will likely require different processes to those that work on the general wards. We, the NAIF team, have selected providing guidance and resources for ED settings as a project for 2026-7.

Spotlight on healthcare improvement 3

Trusts and health boards to reduce variation in effectiveness of post-fall checks (KPI 2) based on injury type.

Patients with rib and pelvic ring fractures were the least likely to receive an effective post-fall check and prompt medical examination. Trusts and HBs are encouraged to review and implement the [supporting best and safe practice](#) recommendations.

Spotlight on healthcare improvement 4

Trusts and health boards to improve the effectiveness of post-fall medical examination.

A significant proportion of injuries appear to be missed on the post-fall medical examination. Trusts and HBs are invited to review and implement the [post-fall medical examination resource](#) to support improvement activities. Improvements in spotlights 3 and 4 should address our new KPI 5 – timely administration of analgesia.

Trusts and health boards are encouraged to address these spotlights using appropriate quality improvement methods (see our [workbook resources](#)). Where quality improvement projects are undertaken, we strongly recommend using NAIF data to measure progress and that effective projects are shared with us using [this template](#).



Read the 2026 NAIF report, [Beyond hip fracture: reporting on the expansion to include other injuries for the first time](#), which presents findings from the audit’s expanded scope.