

This document provides a brief summary of the Hospital at Night e-learning project, which is an extension of the national Hospital at Night (HaN) project, supported by the Department of Health, the London Deanery and the Skills for Health Workforce Projects Team. This project is still in the planning phase and work is expected to commence in March 2010.

Hospital at Night (HaN) has been one of the key European Working Time Directive (EWTB) solutions and has been a significant element of several pilot site projects. Many resources have been developed to support Trusts in implementing Hospital at Night including a comprehensive implementation guide - 'Making Hospital at Night Mainstream' - and research into the impact of Hospital at Night ('The Case for Hospital at Night - The Search for Evidence') that has demonstrated improvements in patient care and safety following HaN implementation.

In order to better facilitate the changes to working practices necessitated by the introduction of the 48 hour week for medical staff in August 2009, 10 one-hour modules have been commissioned by the London Deanery and the Skills for Health team. The educational goals of the project are:

- Development of generic workforce professional skills required to support HaN e.g. safe patient handover, clinical prioritisation and team-working
- Development of specific medical skills related to HaN e.g. recognition of the sick patient, management of common medical and surgical emergencies
- Support of development of nursing competences related to HaN e.g. recognition of the sick patient, taking and interpreting an ECG, cannulation and phlebotomy

It is envisaged that four modules will cover generic multi-professional skills, five modules will deal with clinical skills and one module will cover administrative and other aspects of HaN. Although certain modules will be aimed specifically at doctors in training there will remain an emphasis on the importance of the multi-disciplinary and multi-professional nature of the HaN ethos.

This project supports and complements other e-LfH projects, particularly those related to Acute Medicine (Acumen) and Foundation training, while linking to other initiatives involving the development of professional skills for doctors.

It is anticipated that the project will go live in autumn 2010.