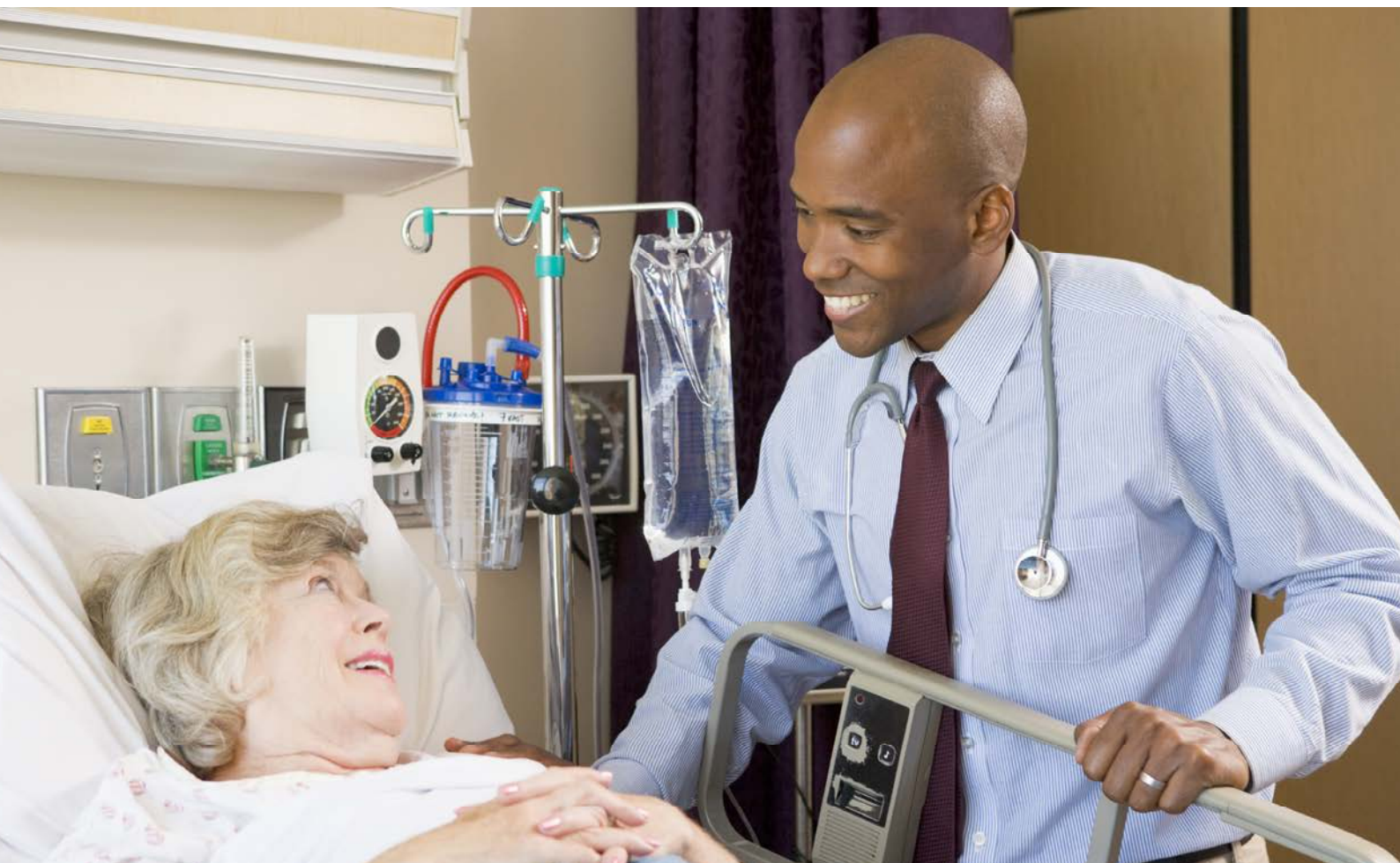




Planning for Integrated Care

NHS Fife used Scenario Generator to understand the impact of an [aging population](#) on demand for services, and to test the impact of the introduction of a virtual ward on bed [capacity requirements](#).



“The results showed the impact of introducing the new service, but also helped us see how demand would grow as a result of the growing population, when our virtual ward capacity runs out, and how much it would all be expected to cost.”

Ken Laurie, Director of Strategic Change, NHS Fife

Transforming care and improving outcomes

The Reshaping Care for Older People Change Fund in Scotland aims to transform care for older people, supporting better integration of care to optimise independence and wellbeing for older people at home and improve outcomes.

Partnerships are required to evidence the impact of proposed investment and NHS Fife have been leading the way in using simulation to test their plans, and working with other Health Boards to share their learning.

NHS Fife used Scenario Generator, to represent the current health and social care system in Fife for older people and to test what would happen if a virtual ward was introduced.

Now NHS Fife is helping the Scottish Government to use this model with other health and social care partnerships to test their investment decisions.

Provide the evidence for change

“We felt we really needed to test this change out in a computer simulation to see what the impact would be and to manage any risks.”

Evidence for change

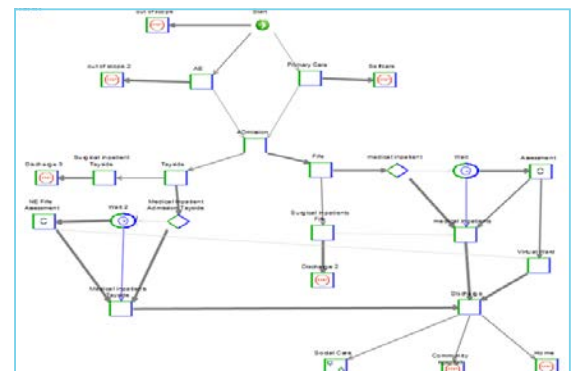
Working with stakeholders, NHS Fife created a simulation that enabled everyone to understand the impact of the ageing population on demand for services.

They simulated the introduction of a virtual ward on bed capacity requirements. One of the key modelling questions was to test what would happen if the staff assessing patients for the virtual ward worked 5 days a week or 7 days a week, and how many patients would still need an inpatient bed when the assessment centre was closed.

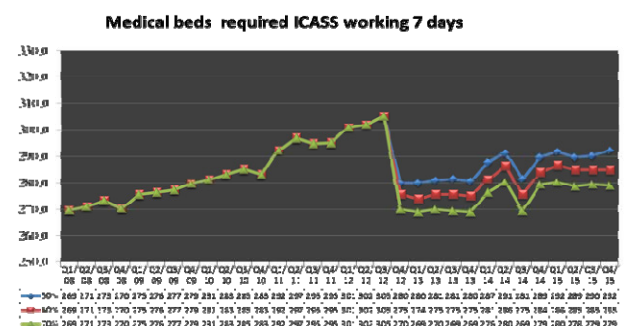
NHS Fife tested the simulation results with real data over a number of years to be absolutely confident in the results

“Investing in a virtual ward is a big decision for us to make, and we felt we really needed to test it out in a computer simulation to see what the impact would be and to manage any risks, in line with guidance from the Scottish Government” said Ken Laurie, Director of Strategic Change from Fife.

“The results showed the impact of introducing the new service, but also helped us see how demand would grow as a result of the growing population, when our virtual ward capacity runs out, and how much it would all be expected to cost”



Assessment alternative to admission for 50% of medical inpatients



For more information on how Scenario Generator can help your trust make more informed strategic decisions about the future of its' healthcare system please contact our support team.