

Information Sharing to Tackle Violence and the vital role all ED staff play in violence prevention

November
2025

Your hospital. Your community. The part YOU play.

#ISTV

“

Behind every piece of
data is a person with a
story.

Rachel Jenner, Emergency Medicine Consultant
Clinical Lead, Violence Reduction Partnership
Greater Manchester



The value of clinically-led programmes in the community

Emergency medicine consultant and clinical lead for Greater Manchester's Violence Reduction Unit, Dr Rachel Jenner is well positioned to share the value of implementing Information Sharing to Tackle Violence (ISTV), where it's being used to great effect to target and deliver community-led interventions to those who need it most.

Like other cities, no two data sets are the same, but working closely with the police and ambulance service and sharing data with community partnerships, they are pinpointing areas of concern.

Rachel said: "In our region we're using ISTV data to implement clinically-led programmes, being delivered by a wide variety of people in the community.

"There are a number of work streams in Manchester related to violence reduction. One of the big ones is a community-led programme where we're going into communities, talking to people with lived experience and getting direct messages from them to plan community interventions, and I think that is really important."

There are lots of different organisations commissioned in different parts of the country to deliver youth work in hospitals. Through the violence reduction unit and funding from the Home Office in 2020, they broke ground in Manchester with the introduction of a Hospital Navigator Programme, and with that youth workers are provided by the charity Oasis UK.

Deployed to the major trauma centres in Greater Manchester, clinicians are able to refer patients to youth workers who can intervene and offer support – whether somebody is seriously injured from a near-fatal stabbing, or if they've been punched resulting in bruises and facial wounds that need simple treatments.

In the last two years they have also worked with the charity Citizen Aid to deliver 'Stop the Bleed Day' which was piloted in 11 schools in Greater Manchester. They went into schools and taught year seven students bleeding control skills using very low-tech simulation equipment – no bleed kit – no fancy tourniquets. They were taught how to apply pressure, pack a wound and make an improvised tourniquet from clothing and household objects.

[Read more on our website: 'In Practice: Greater Manchester'](#)

NEW PODCAST: ISTV - EVIDENCE AND RESULTS

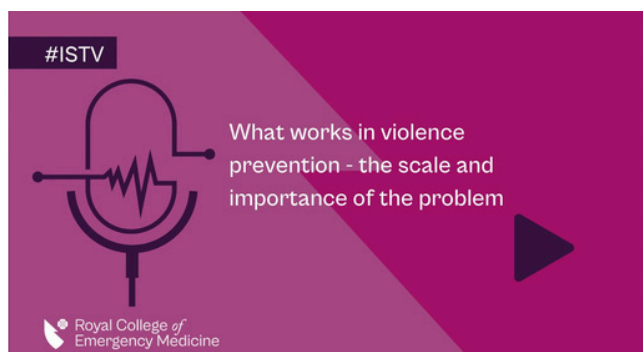
The second in a series of three special ISTV Podcasts experts in the field discussed what works in violence prevention - the scale and importance of the problem.

Emergency medicine consultant Saleyha Ahsan was joined by Michael Cheetham, Violence Reduction Manager, NHS London; Karyn McCluskey, CEO, Criminal Justice Scotland, and Professor Jonathan Shepherd, mastermind behind the Cardiff Model.

Together they explored how data from emergency departments can be used to identify violence hotspots, inform local prevention strategies, and drive long-term change. The guests reflected on decades of progress through the *Information Sharing to Tackle Violence (ISTV)* programme, emphasising that real success comes from collaboration between health services, law enforcement, and communities.

They discussed the challenges of sustaining funding, maintaining data quality, and ensuring national leadership, while highlighting powerful examples of evidence-based interventions that have reduced violent incidents across the UK and internationally.

[Listen here.](#)



THE CARDIFF MODEL/ISTV EXPLAINED

A brief summary:

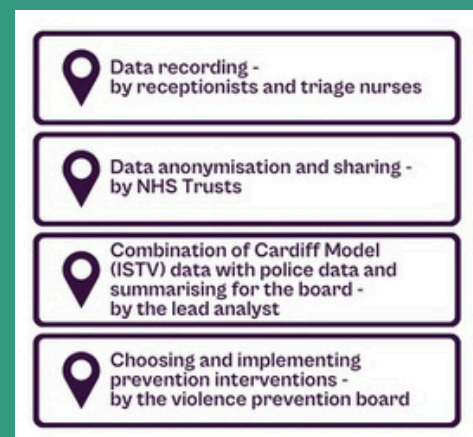
Developed in Cardiff, launched in 1997 to fill gaps in police knowledge by gathering information in hospitals from people injured in violence

The Cardiff Model relies on data on time and date of each violent incident, the precise location of the violence in each case (named street location, named school etc, weapon used, number of assailants in each case, and the relationship between the injured person and the assailant(s))

The data is anonymised before it is shared with external agencies

A violence prevention board brings police, health, local authorities and the voluntary sector together to decide on and implement violence prevention actions

Necessary functions to implement the Cardiff Model/ISTV:



[You can read more on the RCEM website where you can find a factsheet on 'the Cardiff Model explained'](#)

Your hospital. Your community. The part you play.

[Read more on ISTV](#)

CALLING ALL ED STAFF - WE NEED YOU TO BE AN ISTV AMBASSADOR

We're working to establish ISTV as a firm fixture in every ED. Its role in violence prevention cannot be understated - your role in violence prevention cannot be understated. We all want to feel safe in the communities in which we live and work. We want our families, friends and colleagues to feel safe. Our neighbours, their children. We don't want to see them attending A&E having been injured in violence.

Health has a crucial role to play in violence prevention, working in partnership with community safety partnership teams, local authorities, violence reduction partnerships and others to identify the prevalence and geographical location of where violence happens.

We're asking for you to be an advocate of ISTV and encourage colleagues in your department to ask important questions so that data can be shared anonymously to identify trends and put interventions in place.

You should have received a supply of ISTV branded mouse mats, lanyards and pin badges to share in your department - to keep ISTV in mind when you're asking information that you may routinely ask anyway - and we'd like you to wear your lanyard and badge with pride.

There is a page dedicated to ISTV on RCEM's website, where you can find more information, including FAQs, and short films on the important roles clerical staff, clinicians and healthcare workers play.

#ISTV Ambassador - for safer communities

**#ISTV**

Your hospital. Your community. The part YOU play.

**Information
Sharing to
Tackle
Violence**

Everyone working in the Emergency Department has a vital role to play in violence prevention

The questions you ask matter

Finding out:

-  Location
-  Date/Time
-  Weapon

Can lead to meaningful action

Be an ISTV Ambassador in your ED

 **Royal College of
Emergency Medicine**www.rcem.ac.uk/information-sharing-to-tackle-violence

Your hospital. Your community. The part you play.

[Read more](#)