We developed a real-time data visualisation platform for prospective continuous audit. This would allow for faster feedback of performance against standards, enhanced support to Trusts and better integration between the audit and QI initiatives.

Clinicians and audit professionals from 12 pilot sites were asked to submit data for 10 service users discharged from hospital consecutively.

We then asked the clinicians and audit professionals to complete an online feedback form asking them about their experience of using the platform and the feasibility of this methodology.

75% agreed it would be feasible for them to collect and submit data on a continuous basis.

77% said they see enough service users to make continuous audit feasible.

On average, it took participants 30-40 minutes to collect the data from each service user's casenotes, and 20-30 minutes to enter each record on the platform. The most burdensome questions to collect and enter were on medication.

85% said this audit would support them to make meaningful QI in their hospital.

Participants reported the most useful resources to support local QI were the local reports, national main report and report for service users. The least helpful were learning about QI done by other hospitals and outlier information.

We concluded that the Mental Health Services Data Set may be useful to reduce burden on hospital sites by mapping audit variables to help services collate the required data. The audit would still need questions where there are gaps in the dataset, such as carer support, psychological therapy access and outcomes, and service user information provided.