

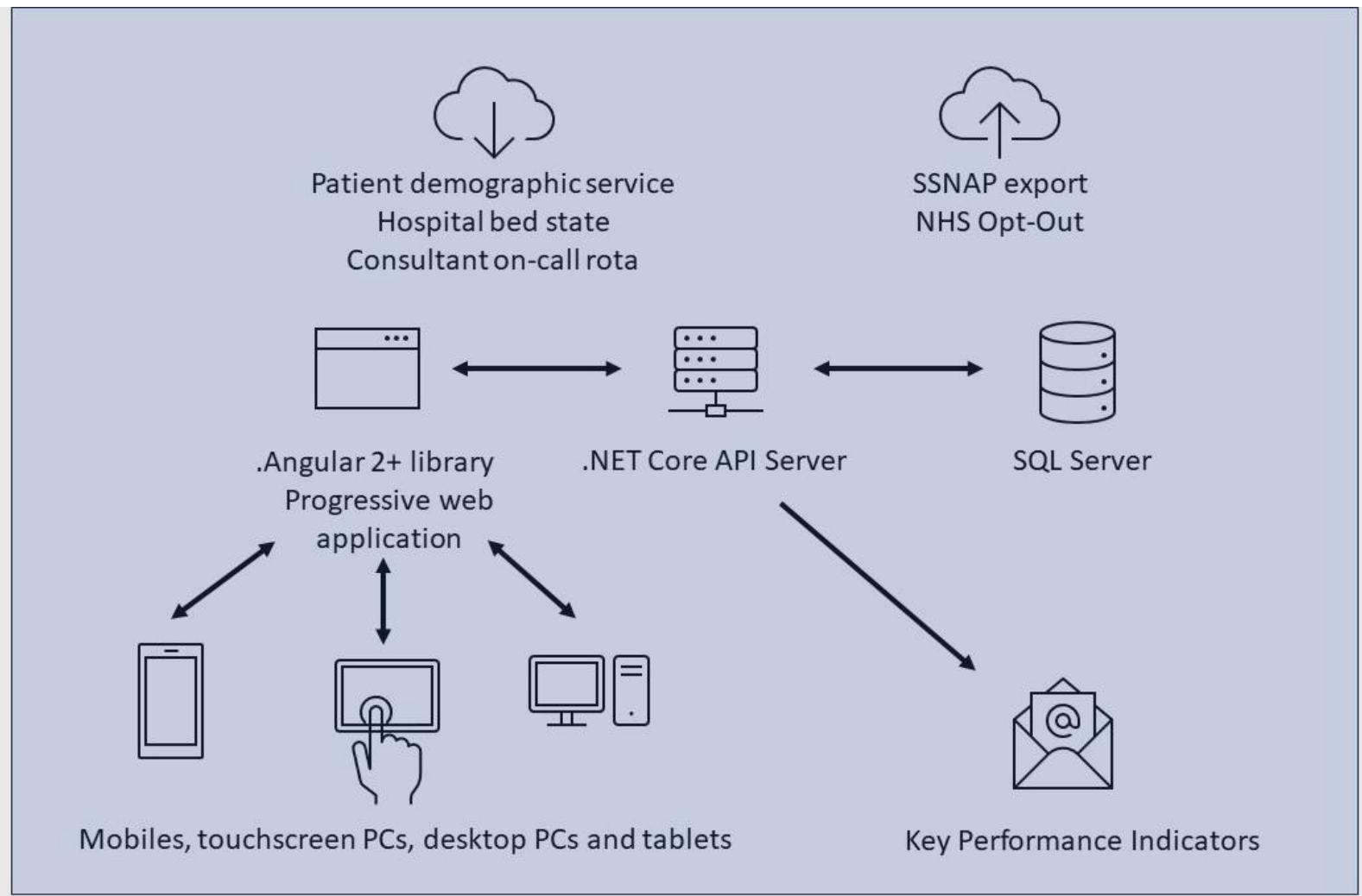
Managing inpatient therapy SSNAP audit activity using a locally-developed electronic tool

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Introduction

Traditionally, therapy minutes are recorded in the medical notes. Accurate translation to the SSNAP audit requires each entry to be timed and dated, the discipline of the therap(ies) provided, the grade of staff (registered +/- support worker), the duration of intervention and, where patients are not seen, the reasons behind. Retention of this record beyond inpatient stay is necessary for the data team to accurately calculate each session and enter onto the SSNAP webtool after the patient has been discharged. We developed and introduced an electronic capture tool (SSNAPPY) with the aim of providing an easily updatable therapy record, with increased transparency of data, automatic calculation of the appropriate SSNAP therapy return and, at the end of the patient episode, automatic submission to the SSNAP audit.



Methods

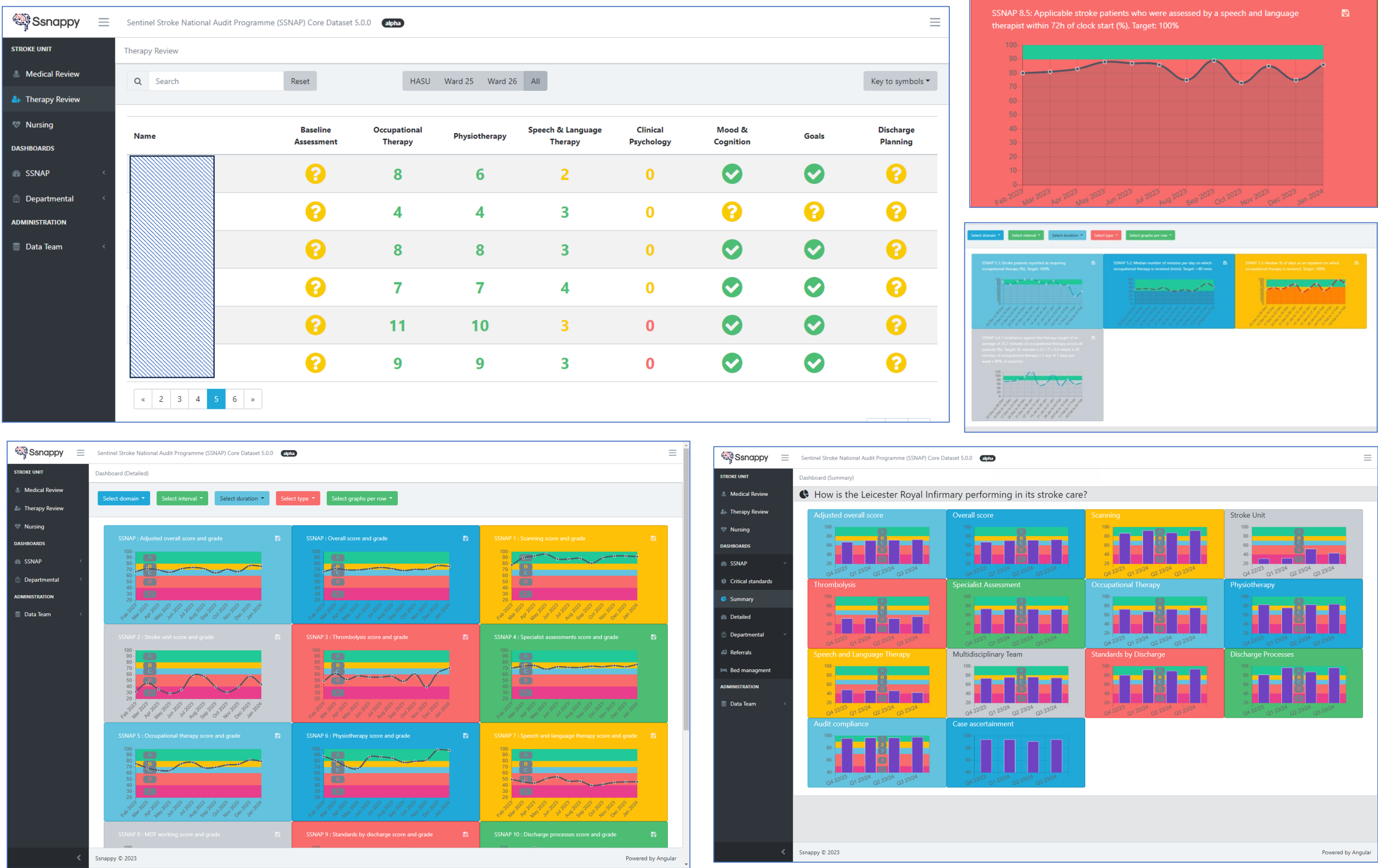
SSNAPPY was developed by one of the co-authors using a quasi-agile methodology in conjunction with stroke care providers. The user interface was written using the Angular Javascript library, with a backing API provided through .NET Core and a SQL server database hosted at UHL. Bulk CSV files are generated for manual upload by the data team via the SSNAP website through the import function. When the screen is not in use, it defaults to a public-facing display of the unit's overall SSNAP performance based on previous quarters.



Schematic diagram of SSNAPPY as hosted within hospital intranet.

Results

SSNAPPY is now embedded into routine use at the UHL stroke unit for recording therapy assessment times, durations, exceptions, staff grades and outcome. Touchscreens are distributed across the wards and in the therapy MDT office. User acceptability has been high. The consistency of approach and use of wizard calculators for baseline and outcome measures such as modified Rankin and Barthel scores may reduce inter-observer variability. Distribution of therapy intervention between and across patients is easily viewed. Key performance metrics across the previous few days and longer time periods is easily accessible via the interface. The workload of the data team has been significantly reduced through this initiative.



Example of user interfaces and outputs

Future directions

SSNAPPY has been adopted by the NHS Innovations Hub for further development and distribution at low cost to other interested sites. As well as therapy, hyperacute and referral data are recorded, The aim is to host SSNAPPY on the cloud internet linked to the national NHS demographics service. If you are interested in seeing if SSNAPPY would work for your unit please contact us.