Understand data and improve healthcare

Background

In the beginning of 2018, Era Analytics was implemented and launched in the Finnish hospital district Kanta-Häme. The launch in Kanta-Häme was the result of a four-month implementation project in a successful and efficient collaboration between Kanta-Häme, Ivbar Sweden and Prodacapo Finland.

Prior to the implementation project, Kanta-Häme had limited ways to monitor performance over time and no possibility to benchmark, either with other Finnish hospital districts or internationally. One major obstacle for improvement projects had been the fragmentation of data and the lack of real-time information on current performance.

Era Analytics provides comprehensive information on case mix adjusted performance in terms of health outcomes, resource use, care processes and costs across entire care episodes as well as international benchmarking.

Today, Kanta-Häme is actively using Era Analytics in their improvement work and two additional Finnish hospital districts are connected to the platform. The three districts cover ~40% of the Finnish population. The objective is to increase coverage and connect more hospital districts the coming years.

Kanta-Häme was the first district to go live with international benchmarking in Era Analytics, a unique opportunity that has attracted a lot of attention and potentially can pave the way for more Nordic health care collaborations going forward.
The solution: Era Analytics

Era Analytics is a flexible solution that uses available data to perform continuous case mix adjusted analysis of outcomes and costs over entire treatment cycles, enabling detailed benchmarking for healthcare stakeholders and clinical professionals.

In Kanta-Häme, performance monitoring of eight patient groups was live in Era Analytics in August 2019 and a number of additional patient groups are under development. National and international benchmarking is available, and the platform imports administrative data including cost data. Kanta-Häme is evaluating multiple ways of connecting additional relevant data such as clinical data from local EMR systems and collecting PROM/PREM data to further increase the chances of discovering improvement potential.

Era Analytics presents several unique features:

- Case mix-adjusted results
- Monitoring of outcomes and costs over entire care episodes
- Eight patient groups live on platform
- National and international benchmarking available
- Continuous feedback with regular updates of data

![Era Analytics dashboard](image)
The project

In the end of 2017 Kanta-Häme teamed up with Ivbar Sweden and Prodacapo Finland, to initiate performance monitoring and benchmarking to others using Era Analytics. Kanta-Häme was the first Finnish hospital district to implement the Era platform and paved the way for additional districts joining the year after.

A team of project managers, clinical specialists and technical resources in Kanta-Häme jointly invested around 100 hours into the implementation project that resulted in a launch event where the two first patient groups, birth care and stroke where launched on the platform.

Within four months from kick-off, the data had been prepared and integrated with Era Analytics, results had been validated and users had been educated to use the platform. Kanta-Häme physicians could, for the first time start identifying areas with improvement potential from the results on the platform and based on these insights start thinking about how to change practices.

““The implementation was surprisingly quick and easy for us. Already two months after our implementation project started, we could benchmark our performance with other hospitals and initiate improvement projects.”

Seppo Ranta
CEO, Kanta-Häme hospital district
After launch of data in Era Analytics, Kanta-Häme immediately started identifying areas for improvement. For the first time Kanta-Häme staff were able to understand how their health outcomes and resource use differed from others.

The early findings included a significantly longer length-of-stay at delivery for women giving birth in Kanta-Häme (average 1 day longer), compared to the Swedish region they were benchmarking with. This difference persisted even after adjusting for differences in patient population (case mix adjustment) and the length-of-stay has since launch been reduced by 6%. In addition, when analysing costs of birth care, the total costs at delivery were 12% lower in 2019 compared to 2018.

Another finding in Era Analytics was a higher than average rate of postoperative infection in patients with breast cancer surgery. The rate was found significantly higher than at other units participating in the benchmarking.

A change of process has been initiated including giving prophylactic antibiotics to all patients undergoing breast surgery. The rate of infection after surgery has decreased since the implementation. A year after implementation, infection rate was 27% lower and the costs for breast cancer care were reduced by 8%.
Ivbar is a value driven high-tech company with deep understanding of healthcare. Our goal is better health for more people throughout the world – and we are well on our way.

Ivbar was founded in Stockholm in 2012. Our mission is to revolutionise healthcare by giving medical professionals easy-to-use tools to analyse data, share insights and thereby understand and improve their performance.

In addition, our products help governments and insurance companies achieve transparency, and manage payment models to secure that financial incentives are aligned with the need of the patient.

Today, Ivbar is a trusted provider of products for payers covering more than eight million lives.