



The Yorkshire and Humber
Paediatric Critical Care
 Operational Delivery Network



detecting deterioration

Our Pilot Team

The Yorkshire & Humber Pilot

In 2024, NHS England selected us to lead a Martha's Rule pilot across our regional network, which covers 14 NHS Trusts that care for children and young people.

The pilot's goal is to develop a shared set of principles for implementing Martha's Rule in each hospital, allowing flexibility based on individual Trust resources.



Dr Ben Richardson

Clinical Lead for Martha's Rule



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Regional Martha's Rule
 Engagement Lead



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Lead Nurse & Network Manager
 for the Y & H PCC ODN

Who is Martha?

Martha Mills died in 2021 from sepsis after being treated for a pancreatic injury at King's College Hospital. Despite her family's concerns about her worsening condition, Martha wasn't moved to intensive care early enough.

In 2023, a coroner ruled that earlier intervention could have saved her. Following this, Martha's parents campaigned for change, leading NHS England and the Department of Health to introduce 'Martha's Rule'.

What is Martha's Rule?

Martha's Rule (sometimes called Call for Concern) gives patients, families, and caregivers the opportunity to take action if you feel you or a loved one is becoming more unwell and your concerns are not being listened to. You know yourself or your loved one better than anyone else and therefore may be the first to notice a change in their condition.

We Need Your Voice

Whether you've been in hospital or not, your experience matters to us. We want to hear directly from patients and families to understand what actually works for you and what you think hospitals need to put in place to support you to raise your concerns in the future? We particularly want to listen to voices that often go unheard.

Your feedback will help Trusts across the region make Martha's Rule clearer and easier to use. Everything we learn will also be shared with NHS England to help improve Martha's Rule for everyone.

Get Involved

Scan the QR code or email: Hannah.stacey@nhs.net

