The Cardiff Model for Violence Prevention

During his PhD studies professor Jonathan Shepherd made a sobering discovery: police were not aware of most violence that results in emergency hospital treatment. The Violence Research Group he later founded in Cardiff repeated the research in other cities and reached the same conclusion. It became obvious that to reduce violence, police intelligence has to be complemented with the information collected in hospitals, especially emergency departments (EDs). Cardiff Model for Violence Prevention was set up to address this gap.

There are many reasons why people choose not to report violence to the police. Here is Professor Jonathan Shepherd, explaining some of those reasons from his experience.

How does the Cardiff model work?
The Cardiff Model has three key components:

- Continuous data collection in hospital EDs on precise violence location, time, weapon, and number of assailants
- Information anonymized and shared regularly by hospitals with crime analysts who combine and summarise police and ED data to identify areas and time of violence concentration
- Combined information translated into violence prevention by a Violence Prevention Board. Here you can hear from professor Shepherd what the Violence Prevention Board is and how it functions!

Where is it applied?
The model was developed in UK and has become mandatory under the terms of the standard National Health Service contract - The Cardiff Model dataset was codified and included in the new Emergency Care Data Set which software suppliers are required to include in their products!

Outside the UK, the Cardiff model for violence prevention found its use across the globe – from the Netherlands, to the USA, Australia, South Africa and has been recommended by the WHO in their implementation of the recommendations of the World Report on Violence and Health. The INSPIRE Handbook explains how Cardiff Model contributes to reducing violence against children.