

South Wales and South West CHD Network Quarterly Report

Network	South Wales and the South West Congenital Heart Disease Network		
Services covered	All CHD services in South Wales and South West England		
Network Core Team	Louise Hudson (Manager), Stephanie Curtis (Clinical Director), Jess Hughes / Sheena Vernon (Lead Nurse), Rachel Burrows (Support Manager)		
Reporting period:	Q4 (Jan – March 2023)	Overall Status:	AMBER

Key Objective of the Network: The Network brings together clinicians, managers, patient/family representatives and commissioners from across South Wales and the South West, to work together to support patients of all ages with a congenital heart condition, and their families/carers.

Main achievements in this reporting period (Q4: Jan – March 2023):

Clinical

- Held network-wide quality improvement/audit session as part of the Clinical Governance Group, including research updates (Jan '23).
- Finalised paediatric guidelines and gained approval via network's governance arrangements
- Progressed the pilot project for improving transition across the network.
- Held Cardiff level 2 paediatric and ACHD check-ins.
- Launched a joint initiative between Bristol and Cardiff to monitor paediatric delay in transfer.
- Bi-monthly task and finish group led by Clinical Director to resolve ECHO and image transfer issues.
- Quarterly task and finish group reviewing anaesthetic pathway for CHD patients requiring non-cardiac surgery.
- Task and finish group and survey launched to address communication between and transfer of patients from L1 to region.

Business

- Finalised 2023/24 network workplan and draft associated key project plans.
- Reviewed 2022/23 budget and forecasting for 2023/24.
- Signed-off new risk, issues and incident management process and promoted to the Network.
- Finalised process for psychologist lead involvement in CHD Network aligning CHD workplan and Trust priorities. Leads to meet quarterly.
- Commented on national draft Congenital Heart Disease and Paediatric Cardiac Clinical Network Service Specification and met with new NHSE CHD lead and regional commissioners.
- Network Board held (Jan '23) with spotlight on pharmacy new developments, a pre-recorded patient story with live Q&A reflecting on experience of treatment plus an interactive session to finalise the 2023/2024 Network workplan.
- Recruited a new Network Research Lead (Feb '23).
- Met with WHSSC in collaboration with North West, North Wales & Isle of Man CHD Network and the West Midlands CHD Network, and the Welsh Cardiac Network to discuss patient flow in Powys and adopting the NHSE CHD Standards.
- Reporting of CHD surgical and interventional waiting list information, % CHD activity restoration and escalated issues or risks to NHS England nationally.
- Collected data from CHD services (both adults and paediatrics) across the Network and populated the 2022/23 performance dashboard ready for review at the Network Board.

- 2022/23 Network reflection session held looking at successes and challenges over the year, in preparation for producing the Network annual report (March '23).

Education and research

- Participated in the national BCCA conference programme planning team.
- Promoted new webinar series led by Paediatric Clinical Nurse Specialists aimed at nurses who care for cardiac patients across the region.
- Supporting new annual paediatric study day for ward staff (March '23).
- Held South West Paediatric Cardiology Teaching Forum (Jan '23) with excellent feedback
- Continued to promote national e-Learning for Health introductory CHD modules – SWSW are key authors.
- Network link nurse (level 3) virtual sessions held bi-monthly to enable shared learning and best practice. Offered 1:1 support meets with Network Lead Nurses.
- Held BRHC link nurse meetings.
- Bi-monthly virtual network event held for Cardiac Physiologists across the network to discuss current service provision, share learning and highlight training and education needs.
- Continued with monthly bitesize education initiative “Lesion of the month” for all clinical nurse specialists and link nurses across the network.

Communications and Engagement

- Patient reps - review and recruitment event held (March '23) and Board pre-meetings and debriefs.
- Plan and progress Network newsletter Spring edition.
- Continued to update the Network website and Future Platform with useful resources as well as webinars from education events launching a 'news' page for recent updates.
- BRHC Facebook takeover for CHD Awareness Week and social media campaign to raise awareness of the CHD Network and support available (Feb '23).
- Network members inputting into the national BCCA conference programme planning (March '23)

Planned Progress for next quarter (Q1: April – June 2023)

- Progress plans for the national BCCA Conference being hosted in Bristol in November '23.
- Progress plans to host the National CHD Managers bi-annual meeting and National CHD Networks Meeting in November '23 to coincide with BCCA Conference
- Publish and promote the Spring 2023 Network newsletter.
- Promote feedback survey on the Network performance dashboard with the aim of enhancing this.
- Support the re-activated Joint Cardiac Board (April '23).
- Hold the Basic ACHD training day aimed at doctors and AHPs (April '23).
- Continue to progress key workplan project areas including adoption of NHSE CHD standards and recommendations in Wales, ECHO issues, transition, revised research strategy, elective recovery.
- Hold Paediatric Nurse Webinars series (April/May '23).
- Progress plans and hold Local Charities and Support Groups update event (May '23).
- Finalise programme and hold Network Transition Study Day 1 (May '23).
- Progress plans and hold the South Wales Self-Assessment progress reviews with the paediatric and adult CHD services for each Health Board, in collaboration with the Wales Cardiac Network.

- Progress plans and hold Network Adult and Paediatric CHD Clinical Nurse Specialist Away Day in Cardiff (June '23).
- Finalise programme and hold Psychology Network Study Day (June '23).
- Progress projects to tackle DNAs and Lost to Follow Up, improve communications between L1 and centres, finalise the fetal pathway.

Top issues identified within issues log

Title	Mitigating Actions
<p>1. There is an issue that patients are experiencing delays to and cancellation of appointments and procedures across the Network caused by COVID-19 and subsequent backlogs, lack of staff and equipment.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ODN is renewing its focus on elective recovery and restoration in its 2023/24 workplan, working with individual providers to support action and share good practice. Monitoring and reporting will continue via regional and national meetings and Board. • Network meeting with centres who are flagging concerns. • Providers are risk stratifying patients, conducting harm reviews and undertaking wait list management to mitigate clinical risk. • Managers are taking action to mitigate the risk to staff wellbeing.
<p>2. There is an issue that patients' cardiac operations are being cancelled due to PICU capacity pressures.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CHD ODN is renewing its focus on elective recovery and restoration in its 2023/24 workplan, working with individual providers and colleagues including NHSE locally, regionally and nationally to support action and share good practice. Monitoring and reporting will continue via regional and national meetings and Board. • PCC ODN is supporting the management of PICU bedspace via model of care development and escalating regionally and nationally where appropriate • Provider is risk stratifying patients, conducting harm reviews and undertaking wait list management to mitigate clinical risk. • Managers are taking action to mitigate the risk to staff wellbeing.
<p>3. There is an issue concerning a lack of investment in services in South Wales.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local Health Boards to agree to ratify the decision to adopt the NHSE CHD Standards. • Local Health Boards to agree to fund clinical activity under implementation of Level 2 Phase III Business Case. • Meet with Local Health Boards, Cardiac Network for Wales and centres to work towards implementing the key recommendations from the L3 self-assessment process.