

South Wales and South West CHD Network

Title of the report: Congenital Heart Disease (CHD) Network – Quarter 1 Update to W&C Divisional Board

Forum: SWSW CHD Network Board

Date: July 2023

Summary

This report highlights the main achievements of the CHD network in the quarter 1(2023/24) and outlines the focus for quarter 2. In line with current process it highlights relevant issues and proposed action, for further details of identified issue/s, please read p.3

Recommendations

For awareness and continued support of the network

Author/s

Louise Hudson, CHD Network Manager

Presented by

Louise Hudson, CHD Network Manager

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:	Q1 (Apr– Jun 2023)	Overall Status:	Green

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 (Q1: Apr – Jun 2023):

Clinical

- South Wales Self-Assessment progress reviews held with the paediatric and adult CHD services for each Health Board, in collaboration with the Wales Cardiac Network.
- Progressed the pilot project for improving transition across the network.
- Continued joint initiative between Bristol and Cardiff to monitor paediatric delays in transfer.
- Held bi-monthly task and finish group led by Clinical Director to resolve ECHO and image transfer issues.
- Held quarterly task and finish group reviewing anaesthetic pathway for CHD patients requiring non-cardiac surgery.
- Task and finish group launched to address the communication of patient information from L1 to region.
- Task and finish group launched to address transfer of care and lost to follow-up between paediatric and adult services.
- Fetal cardiology pathway finalised and SOP for referral between L1 & L2 centres published on network website.

Business

- Network Board held (Apr'23) - spotlights on new network T&F groups and projects and a pre-recorded patient story with live Q&A.
- Supported Joint Cardiac Board meeting (May 23) between L1 paediatric and adult services.
- Reported CHD surgical and interventional waiting list information, % CHD activity restoration and escalated issues or risks to NHS England nationally at monthly national meeting.
- Promoted feedback survey on the network performance dashboard with the aim of enhancing this.
- Conducted workforce survey, collecting data from all centres to feed into national workforce review of CHD clinical and network staffing levels.
- 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.

Education and research

- Delivered the Basic ACHD training day aimed at doctors and AHPs (Apr '23)
- Supported Welsh Paediatric Cardiovascular Spring Teaching Forum (May '23)
- Delivered Transition Study Morning (May)
- Supported Psychology Study Day (June)
- Held Paediatric Nurse Webinars series (April/May '23).

- 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 - Board pre-meetings and debriefs, recruitment of rep to national Clinical Reference Group, new patient reps ‘on-boarded’ via application process and interviews.
- Launched Network newsletter - Spring 2023 edition.
- Held local Charities and Support Groups Update Event (May 23)
- Produced SWSW CHD Network Annual Report
- Refreshed the CHD Youth Worker Network website pages (June 2023)

Planned Progress for next quarter (Q2: July - Sep 2023)

- Continue to progress key workplan project areas including adoption of NHSE CHD standards and recommendations in South Wales, delays in paediatric transfers of care, ECHO issues, transition, elective recovery, DNA/Was Not Brought, Lost to Follow-Up, communication of patient information and image sharing.
- Work with commissioners, providers and leads regionally and nationally to address service capacity issues associated with delays to elective recovery.
- Continue South Wales Self-Assessment progress reviews with the paediatric and adult CHD services for each Health Board, in collaboration with the Wales Cardiac Network and produce update report.
- Plan and attend Joint Cardiac Network Board with L1 colleagues.
- Planning for BCCA and National Managers and Network of Networks meeting (Nov '23)
- Network Adult and Paediatric CHD Clinical Nurse Specialist Away Day in Cardiff (July '23).
- CHD Network Board (July '23)
- CHD Clinical Governance Group (quality improvement/audit updates) (July '23)

Top issue/s 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.