

## South Wales and South West CHD Network

**Title of the report:** Congenital Heart Disease (CHD) Network – Quarter 3 Update to SLT and W&C Divisional Board

**Forum:** SWSW CHD Network Board

**Date:** 19<sup>th</sup> January 2023

### **Summary**

This report highlights the main achievements of the CHD network in the quarter 3(2022/23) and outlines the focus for quarter 4. In line with current process it highlights relevant issues and proposed action, for further details of identified issues, please read from p.5

### **Recommendations**

For awareness and continued support of the network

### **Author/s**

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### **Presented by**

Louise Hudson, CHD Network Manager

## South Wales and South West CHD Network Quarterly Report

<b>Network</b>	South Wales and the South West Congenital Heart Disease Network		
<b>Services covered</b>	All CHD services in South Wales and South West England		
<b>Network Core Team</b>	Louise Hudson (Manager), Stephanie Curtis (Clinical Director), Jess Hughes / Sheena Vernon (Lead Nurse), Rachel Burrows (Support Manager)		
<b>Reporting period:</b>	Q3 (Oct – Dec 2022)	<b>Overall Status:</b>	<b>AMBER</b>
<p><b>Key Objective of the Network</b> 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.</p>			
<p><b>Main achievements in this reporting period (Q3: Oct - Dec 2022):</b></p>			
<p><b><u>Clinical</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recruited peripheral centres into pilot project for improving transition across the network</li> <li>Published and launched four QR code posters to signpost to psychology well-being resources for parents/carers and for children and young people, when in outpatients or pre-admission, and during admission on the ward. These also link to psychology webinars.</li> <li>Continued support with recruitment to psychologist posts for ACHD and paediatric service in Bristol</li> <li>Annual Network Mortality and Morbidity Forum held for network-wide learning with good engagement and feedback (Oct '22)</li> <li>Planning network wide quality improvement/audit session as part of the Clinical Governance Group, including research updates for Jan '23</li> <li>Held the network Adult and Paediatric CHD Clinical Nurse Specialist Away Day in Bristol (Nov '22)</li> <li>Finalised paediatric guidelines and gain approval via network and governance arrangements in relevant centres</li> <li>Launched Cardiff level 2 paediatric and ACHD check-ins</li> <li>Substantive cardiac clinical nurse specialist and cardiac physiologist recruited in Truro – new posts.</li> </ul>			

- Updated the network ACHD clinical guidelines and published on the website
- Established task and finish group led by Clinical Director to resolve ECHO and image transfer issues
- Established task and finish group to review anaesthetic pathway for patients requiring non-cardiac surgery. Group to meet on a quarterly basis.

### **Business**

- Appointed a new network clinical director and supported induction – started in post in October
- Network Board held (Oct '22) with spotlight on cardiac surgery, and a live patient story reflecting on experience of surgical treatment and communication with patients
- Presented report summarising findings from Welsh self-assessment visits to WHSSC Management Board in collaboration with North West, North Wales & Isle of Man CHD Network with a view to Wales adopting the NHSE CHD Standards and agreeing to implement recommendations (Dec '22)
- Prepared presentations and attended the national CHD networks managers' meeting and conference (Nov '22)
- Led final national network of CHD networks monthly conference call to allow rapid dissemination of information, discussion of clinical cases and shared learning during COVID and restoration period (Sept '22)
- Attended the first meeting of the national network of CHD networks in November with a focus on CHD and PICU surge (Dec'22)
- Reporting of CHD surgical and interventional waiting list information, % CHD activity restoration and escalated issues or risks to NHS England nationally
- Presented on the SWSW CHD Network and Elective Performance to the SW CYP Elective Recovery Group
- Continued work with other networks in South West and other developing CHD networks
- 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.
- Held a 2023/24 workplan priorities workshop
- Held CHD Network 'new team' team-building session focussing on strengths, values and priorities
- Met with CHD Network lead psychologist to review lead psychologist involvement in Network team and work through new process for 2023/24
- Reviewed network incident and risk process and prepared draft issues log in line with NHSE Risk Framework process (see revised issues log attached – full log available on request).

### **Education and research**

- Held fetal cardiology for sonographers study day – hybrid event (Oct '22)
- Held the second transition study event (Oct'22)
- Held the 20<sup>th</sup> ACHD study day with over 80 delegates (Oct '22)
- Held Cardiology Education Forum in Cardiff with the theme of palliative pathways

(Nov '22)

- Continued to promote national e-Learning for Health introductory CHD modules – SWSW key authors in this
- Network link nurse (level 3) virtual sessions held bi-monthly to enable shared learning and best practice
- Held BRHC link nurse meeting
- Eighth virtual network event held for Cardiac Physiologists across the network to discuss current service provision, share learning and highlight training and education needs (Dec) – rolled out to 2023 following positive feedback.
- Continued with monthly bitesize education initiative “Lesion of the month” for all clinical nurse specialists and link nurses across the network.

### **Communications and Engagement**

- Published and promoted the Autumn 2022 network newsletter
- Published and promoted psychology wellbeing QR code posters for patients and families
- Held Local Charities and Support Groups update event (‘Oct 22)
- Patient rep meetings held in advance of the network board, as well as debrief meetings afterwards
- Identified SW and South Wales patient and family representatives to participate in national CHD patient representative ‘Champion Project’
- Continued to update the network website and Future Platform with useful resources as well as webinars from education events
- Photo shoot held at BRHC

### **Planned Progress for next quarter (Q4: Jan-Mar 2023)**

- Finalise 2023/24 network workplan and draft associated key project plans
- Review 2022/23 budget and forecasting for 2023/24
- Finalise process for psychologist lead involvement in CHD Network aligning CHD workplan and Trust priorities
- Comment on draft Congenital Heart Disease and Paediatric Cardiac Clinical Network Service Specification
- Sign-off new risk, issues and incident management process
- 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 Network Board and Clinical Governance Group (Jan '22)
- Hold South West Paediatric Cardiology Teaching Forum (Jan '22)
- Hold Psychology Network Study Day (March '22)
- Plan and progress plans for network newsletter Spring edition
- Plan South West Self-Assessment meetings

- Plan Stakeholder Engagement Event for Q1/2

### Top Issues identified within draft 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"> <li>• 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.</li> <li>• Network to set up meetings with centres who are flagging concerns.</li> <li>• Providers are risk stratifying patients, conducting harm reviews and undertaking wait list management to mitigate clinical risk.</li> <li>• Managers are taking action to mitigate the risk to staff wellbeing.</li> </ul>
<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"> <li>• 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.</li> <li>• PCC ODN is supporting the management of PICU bedspace via model of care development and escalating regionally and nationally where appropriate</li> <li>• Provider is risk stratifying patients, conducting harm reviews and undertaking wait list management to mitigate clinical risk.</li> <li>• Managers are taking action to mitigate the</li> </ul>

	<p>risk to staff wellbeing.</p>
<p>3. There is an issue concerning a lack of investment in services in South Wales.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Local Health Boards to agree to ratify the decision to adopt the NHSE CHD Standards.</li> <li>• Local Health Boards to agree to fund clinical activity under implementation of Level 2 Phase III Business Case.</li> <li>• Local Health Boards to agree to work towards implementing the key recommendations from the L3 self-assessment process.</li> </ul>
<p>4. There is an issue that network centres do not identify and fund link nurses.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CHD ODN is renewing its focus on workforce recruitment and retention in its 2023/24 workplan, working with individual providers and colleagues including NHSE locally, regionally and nationally to support action and share good practice.</li> <li>• CHD ODN will undertake self-assessments of L3 centres to understand gaps and to agree action to mitigate..</li> </ul>
<p>5. There is an issue that image sharing between organisations in the network is challenging.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To review on a Trust by Trust basis with a focus on Wales and Bath currently.</li> <li>• Network CD working through solutions with IG and IT leads.</li> <li>• To increase focus on this issue via Network workplan for 2023/24.</li> </ul>
<p>6. There is an issue that there is a lack of medical workforce succession planning.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To review on a Trust by Trust basis as part of L3 self-assessment process and via other workforce audit mechanisms.</li> <li>• To increase focus on this issue via Network workplan for 2023/24 aligning with data collection of patient numbers to plan workforce.</li> </ul>

<p>7. There is an issue that some centres do not have the recommended staffing establishment.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To review on a Trust by Trust basis as part of L3 self-assessment process and via other workforce audit mechanisms.</li> <li>• To increase focus on this issue via Network workplan for 2023/24, aligning with data collection of patient numbers to plan workforce.</li> </ul>
<p>8. There is an issue that the L1 paediatric centre has a lack of clinic space for outpatient appointments.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BRHC is looking at clinic space and other venues for clinics including Weston General Hospital.</li> </ul>
<p>9. There is an issue of delayed transfers of paediatric patients from Wales to L1, L2 and L3 centres.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To audit delayed transfers and admissions in the first instance via a delayed transfers form to identify issues and solutions.</li> <li>• To mitigate the risk within the centres via workforce planning and clinical risk management.</li> </ul>
<p>10. There is an issue that sonography training, staffing and equipment is inadequate across the network, this is acute in South Wales.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To investigate where this is raised as a particular concern by clinics and to agree mitigating action with centres.</li> </ul>
<p>11. There is an issue that digital storage systems are inadequate in some parts of the network.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Network to respond to requests for support and to raise via the appropriate routes with individual providers.</li> </ul>
<p>12. There is an issue that patients and families are not communicated with effectively regarding the process and outcome of the Paediatric Joint Cardiac Committee (JCC) meetings.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Information on the Network website is under review and the intention is to link to patient letters.</li> </ul>

*\*Please note that from April 2022 the CHD network will no longer hold a risk register on the UHBW Datix system, following a change in approach from NHSE. Instead, it will hold a local issues log, which will be reviewed by network board quarterly and be available on request. Risks will be held on provider or commissioner risk registers as appropriate.*