

South Wales and South West CHD Network Quarterly Report

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| Network | South Wales and the South West Congenital Heart Disease Network | | |
| Services covered | All CHD services in South Wales and South West | | |
| Network Core Team | Cat McElvaney (Network Manager), Andy Tometzki (Network Clinical Director), Sheena Vernon (Network Lead Nurse) | | |
| Reporting period: | Quarter 3 (Jan-Mar 2021) | 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 (Q3: Jan-Mar 2021):

Clinical

- Survey conducted on current management, governance and operation of specialist peripheral clinics across the south west as part of diagnostic phase of CHD Specialist Peripheral Clinic Project.
- Initial Network Inherited Cardiac Conditions (ICC) meeting held with key stakeholders to discuss approach to ICC within CHD network.
- Dental pathway audit undertaken to assess implementation of pathway across the network
- Paediatric guidelines for Fontan's, Coarctation of the Aorta and Inherited Cardiac Conditions drafted and under review.
- New ACHD consultant appointed in Cardiff as part of the phase 2 investment into ACHD services
- Network Fetal Cardiology meeting held with discussion of complex cases for shared learning and best practice.

Business

- New and improved network performance report launched at Network Board to enable quick "status at a glance" and to agree actions to address any performance issues.
- CHD Network 2021/22 workplan drafted and approved by the Network Board
- NHS England Network Maturity Matrix exercise completed with network stakeholders to assess maturity and development of the network.
- Self-assessment visits to CHD centres in South Wales being organised. Streamlining of self-assessment process underway in collaboration with North West, North Wales & Isle of Man CHD Network.
- Recruitment for new Chair of Network Board underway, interviews planned for 27/04/21.
- Continue to support centres with their CHD recovery plans. Monthly reporting of CHD surgical and interventional waiting list information, % CHD activity restoration and escalated issues or risks to NHS England.
- Continue to lead National CHD network monthly calls, set up to allow rapid dissemination of information, discussion of clinical cases and shared learning during covid period.

Education and research

- Paediatric cardiac nurses new monthly webinar series launched with the first two webinars held and over 60 staff registered.
- Network Psychology Day held virtually with positive feedback.

- New “Paediatric with Expertise in Cardiology” education and training virtual platform launched.
- Fetal Cardiology webinar series continues - with 130 people registered including clinicians from international centres.
- Paediatric Cardiac handbook for nursing staff being finalised, to be launched in May.
- Continued with monthly bitesize education initiative “Lesion of the month” for all clinical nurse specialists and link nurses across the network.

Communications and Engagement

- Network Spring newsletter drafted, ready for publication and distribution across network
- Social media campaign in collaboration with CHD support groups and network patient representatives to ‘demystify the network’, to promote the network and raise awareness of the support resources available
- Heart week in February 2021 – promoted network on Facebook.
- Patient rep meeting held in advance of the Network Board in March

Planned Progress for next quarter (Q1: Apr-Jun 2021)

- Appoint to Chair of the Network Board (Interviews 27/02/21)
- Draft Annual Report for 2020/21.
- Finalise self-assessment process following streamlining and standardising exercise.
- Organise and hold self-assessment visits (virtual) with level 3 centres in South Wales in collaboration with WHSSC.
- Relaunch Network Transition project.
- Plan CNS and link nurse events for next 6 months to enable shared learning and best practice.
- Draft report on peripheral clinic survey results including recommendations. Compile draft Service Level Agreement with project team members for review by NHS England & BRHC.
- Finalise paediatric guidelines & gain approval via network and governance arrangements in relevant centres.
- Complete development of inpatient performance dashboard.
- Progress plans for Echo study day and future “meet and greet” network cardiac physiologist sessions.
- Plan next network wide audit session as part of the Clinical Governance Group in June.

Risks*

| Title | Mitigating Actions |
|--|---|
| COVID-19: there are a number of clinical risks due to delayed appointments and procedures for CHD patients across the network | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All network members have been asked to escalate any significant clinical risks to the network and within their organisations. All centres have been requested to regularly review and triage their waiting lists • Development of restoration plans for CHD activity – linking in with PIC restoration plans |
| Image sharing continues to be an issue across the region | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are a number of workarounds to this issue that are specific to each centre. Network linking into work underway by South West Imaging Network. |

* please note that the CHD network holds a comprehensive risk register on the UH Bristol datix system which is reviewed by network board quarterly and is available on request