

Congenital Heart Disease Network South Wales and South West

Education and Training Strategy

Introduction

The Congenital Heart Disease (CHD) Network South Wales and South West was formed in April 2016 to support the provision of high quality care for CHD patients across South Wales and the South West. Its vision is to be a Network whereby:

- Patients have equitable access to services regardless of geography
- Care is provided seamlessly across the Network and its various stages of transition (between locations, services and where there are co-morbidities)
- High quality care is delivered and participating centres meet national standards of CHD care
- The provision of high quality information for patients, families, staff and commissioners is supported
- There is a strong and collective voice for Network stakeholders
- There is a strong culture of collaboration and action to continually improve services Formation of CHD network

The CHD [standards](#) state:

'Each Specialist CHD Surgical Centre must demonstrate a commitment to the training and education of both core and subspecialty level training in and paediatric and ACHD cardiology, paediatric and ACHD surgery and congenital heart disease in pregnancy, according to the latest Joint Royal Colleges of Physicians' Training Board curriculum.

Specialist ACHD and Paediatric Surgical Centres must provide resources sufficient to support these educational needs across the Network

Each Specialist Paediatric and ACHD Surgical Centre must have one which Includes;

- *specialist education and training*
- *statutory mandatory training*
- *safeguarding*
- *working with adults with learning disability*
- *life support*
- *pain management*
- *infection control*
- *end of life, bereavement*
- *breaking bad news*
- *communication.*

All healthcare professionals in the Network must take part in a programme of continuing professional development as required by their registering body/professional association. This should include specialist education and training and statutory mandatory training.'

Fundamental to the achievement of this vision is strong education strategy for professionals and also patient and family representatives within the network. This document sets out the strategy.

Objectives of the strategy:

- To ensure we provide and promote clinical education opportunities to all key clinical professional groups in the network

- To ensure that clinical staff are aware of local education events, relevant national and international events and conferences through effective sign posting
- To ensure training, to improve knowledge and expertise of clinicians and promote sub-speciality training across the level 1, 2 and 3 centres in the network
- To provide a level of consistency and assurance to patients, families clinicians and commissioners
- To make use of the network website www.swswchd.co.uk for communication of events and access to training and education resources, including access to presentations after events
- To review and evaluate the education strategy annually to ensure its objectives and actions continue to meet stakeholder requirements
- The desired outcome of the ongoing education programme will be an increase in expertise and confidence in the clinical teams caring for patients with congenital heart disease

Stakeholders

The key stakeholders are outlined below:

Clinicians involved with CHD care:

- Specialist consultant cardiologists and surgeons
- Paediatricians with Expertise in Cardiology (PECs) and Cardiologists with an Interest in CHD
- Primary care including GPs and community care – nursing, health visitors, district nursing teams, midwives, dentists and pharmacists
- Specialist CHD nurses
- Link nurses / nurses with interest
- Bereavement and palliative care teams
- Psychology teams
- Allied health care professionals e.g. Physiotherapists, sonographers, physiologists and pharmacists

Methods for Implementing Strategy

- The objectives of the education and training strategy will be delivered through the following core work areas: event mapping i.e. establish a central record of relevant education events
- Holding local education events: link in with existing education events run by level 1, 2 and 3 centres and run additional events where gaps have been identified
- Contact/inform clinicians: ensure that all clinicians are signposted to the full range of education and training options across the network, via the network website
- Seek feedback: design evaluation questionnaire after events, to gather feedback and suggestions for future events
- Network-wide approach: identify existing education leads and contacts in each centre
- Learn from others: look at best practice from other CHD networks and across the NHS for education and training
- Engage the opinion of patient representatives and relevant charities on education priorities
- Ensure an annual training plan for the network is in place.

Stakeholder Engagement Matrix

The following matrix identifies the key communication and engagement approaches for each stakeholder group.

Stakeholder	Engagement methods
Clinicians involved with CHD care (within network): Specialist consultant cardiologists and surgeons PECs and Cardiologists with an Interest Specialist nurses Link nurses / nurses with interest Cardiac intensive care nurses Paediatric intensive care nurses Coronary care nurses High dependency nurses Cardiac ward nurses Bereavement and palliative care team Psychology team AHPs, sonographers, physiologists, pharmacists and physiotherapists Midwives	Communicate with relevant stakeholders on forthcoming events Update website with future events Communicate with other professional networks Ongoing evaluation of teaching events Ongoing needs analysis with annual survey of training needs requirements for staff across the network A formal annual training plan
Clinicians involved with CHD care (outside network): GPs and community care – nursing, health visitors, district nursing teams, midwives, dentists and pharmacists	Local PECs / cardiologists / AHPs as key links Communication via GP on network board Promote resources via network website Promote education and training on website www.swswchd.co.uk to individual teams
Patients (general approach):	Patient representatives on Board to advise on education needs of patient groups Annual patient engagement/ teaching day for patients
Patient support groups/charity partners	Engage with feedback from charity groups on education needs highlighted by patients and families at their charity events

Events to be delivered by the CHD Network

The network will deliver key network education events annually including:

- Annual day for paediatricians with expertise in cardiology (PECs)
- Annual adult congenital heart disease study day
- Two complimentary paediatric nurse study days a year
- Ongoing paediatric cardiac courses run by the Faculty of Children's Education@UHBristol
- The Network Lead Nurse for the CHD will support Level 2 and 3 centres in local delivery of education

Events to be promoted by the Network

- The Network will sign-post to relevant national and international, paediatric and adult conferences via the website and email communication

- The network will promote relevant national courses for allied health care professional including sonographers, physiologists, physiotherapists psychologists via website and email communication
- The network will work with South Welsh Paediatric Cardiovascular Network education meetings meeting to promote their events
- The network will seek feedback to plan future education events
- The network will promote teaching tools and apps, competencies and guidelines to facilitate education

Method of evaluation

- The success of the education and training strategy will be reviewed by the network board or appropriate sub-group annually based on feedback from events
- Activities will be reviewed against the objectives of the strategy and feedback will be sought from key stakeholder groups to inform the ongoing development of the strategy
- Each education event will be evaluated by all delegates attending
- The desired outcome of the ongoing education programme will be an increase in expertise and confidence in the clinical teams caring for patients with congenital heart disease

Document Control

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