

## 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>	John Mills (Manager), Andy Tometzki (Clinical Director), Jess Hughes / Sheena Vernon (Lead Nurse), Rachel Burrows (Support Manager)		
<b>Reporting period:</b>	Quarter 1 (Apr-Jun 2021)	<b>Overall Status:</b>	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 (Q1: Apr-Jun 2021):

#### Clinical

- Two new ACHD consultants started in post in Cardiff as part of the phase 2 investment into ACHD services
- Clinical Governance Group held in June 2021 – included a network wide audit session, dental pathway presentation, charity updates, and update on other guidelines being finalised.
- Paediatric guidelines for Fontan's, Coarctation of the Aorta and Inherited Cardiac Conditions drafted and under review.

#### Business

- Drafted annual report 2020/21
- Continued to set up and lead National network of CHD networks monthly conference calls to allow rapid dissemination of information, discussion of clinical cases and shared learning during COVID period.
- Monthly reporting of CHD surgical and interventional waiting list information, % CHD activity restoration and escalated issues or risks to NHS England.
- Peripheral specialist CHD clinic project – compiled draft report including recommendations and draft Service Level Agreement with project team members, and presented these to BRHC and NHS England.
- Appointed a new Network Board Chairperson
- Network Board held in June 2021 – sessions included CHD specialist peripheral clinic project update.
- Published new network performance outpatient and completed the development of the inpatient performance dashboard.
- Self-assessment process Wales – streamlining of self-assessment process underway in collaboration with North West, North Wales & Isle of Man CHD Network.
- NHSE Value for Money framework completed for 2020/21 to provide at-a-glance summary of network impact

#### Education and research

- Presented at a national CHD networks paediatric nurses education event for nurses across the UK.
- Paediatric cardiac nurses new 2021 monthly webinar series continues with four out of six held so far – very well received and evaluated.
- Developed and launched Paediatric Nurses Future Platform to store the recorded webinars.
- Network Link Nurse (level 3) Education Forum held.
- Held monthly network link nurse (level 3) virtual drop-in sessions.
- Network Cardiac Physiologist second regional network virtual event held.
- WPCN Paediatrician with Expertise in Cardiology study day (May).
- Fetal Cardiology webinar series continues - with over 170 people registered including clinicians from

international centres.

- Continued with monthly bitesize education initiative “Lesion of the month” for all clinical nurse specialists and link nurses across the network.
- Developing a network psychological skills training programme – proposal presented at clinical governance group.
- Paediatric Cardiac handbook for nursing staff finalised and guidance in use. Full launch delayed by image copyright issues, currently being resolved.

### **Communications and Engagement**

- Redesigned Network Spring newsletter published and distributed across network and further a field
- Developed and launched in May ‘demystifying the network’ social media campaign in collaboration with network patient reps and CHD support groups to promote the network and signpost patients/families to support resources available on the network website.
- Continually developing the network website – latest updates include a new rolling photos banner on the website home page and a refreshed patient story page.
- Arranged a professional photo shoot with the support of patients from around the region who consented to take part, for new high-quality photos to refresh the network website, social media and publications.
- Patient rep meetings held in advance of the network board, as well as debrief meetings afterwards.
- Scoping/mapping the gaps for psychology resources/leaflets

### **Planned Progress for next quarter (Q2: Jul-Sep 2021 )**

- Paediatric Cardiology (PEC) Education Forum – July
- Plan the next Network Board and network M&M – September
- Finalise self-assessment protocol and contact Welsh centres
- Roll out nurse competencies
- ACHD workforce meeting – September
- Progress plans for Echo study day (due Oct)
- Progress plans for ACHD study day (due Oct)

### **Top Risks / Issues \***

<b>Title</b>	<b>Mitigating Actions</b>
1. Clinical risks due to delayed appointments and procedures for CHD patients across the network due to COVID-19. Productivity in Outpatients diminished due to COVID-19	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
2. Risk that reduction in nurse lead capacity will delay progress with areas of work they lead on	Specific projects or pieces of work have been paused until network lead nurse’s return (including transition clinic pathway and nursing engagement). Proposal for temporary uplift in nursing hours to facilitate catch-up escalated to NHSE.
3. Risk that CHD patients in South Wales are not having same standards of care due to CHD standards not currently adopted by Wales	Implementation of phase 2 business case underway to enhance ACHD service in South Wales. Approval in principles by WHSSC to adopt the CHD standards. Self-assessment visits being planned with level 3 centres.
4. Risk that adult CHD service provision will be	Concern escalated to Clinical Reference Group for

reduced across the region because of difficulty recruiting and retaining specialist ACHD medical workforce

CHD, to be considered and addressed nationally. Meeting set up in September 2021 with key stakeholders to explore issues and mitigation strategies, such as use of different staff groups.

*\*please note that the CHD network holds a comprehensive risk register on the UHBW Datix system which is reviewed by network board quarterly and is available on request*