

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		
Network Core Team	Cat McElvaney (Network Manager), Andy Tometzki (Network Clinical Director), Sheena Vernon (Network Lead Nurse)		
Reporting period:	Quarter 4 (Jan-Mar 2020)	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 (Q4: Jan- Mar 2020):

Clinical

- Pregnancy pathway drafted and published for women with CHD on network website
- Dental pathways finalised and published on network website.
- Initial meeting held with level 1 and 2 cardiology leads to initiate work on joint fetal pathway between both centres.
- Joint fetal MDT events between level 1 and 2 centres arranged to enable complex case discussion and shared learning.
- Designing an Advanced Care Clinic for adult patients with complex congenital heart disease, including referral criteria, psychology assessment tool, patient information leaflet and letter, and clinic structure.
- Referral criteria for paediatric and adult clinical nurse specialists developed and distributed across the network.
- Continued work on development of nurse competencies for CHD in collaboration with Yorkshire and Humber CHD network.
- Workshop with NHS England on addressing image sharing issues across the region.
- Paediatric Medication survey conducted to scope out any gaps in provision of medication guidelines, issues with prescribing and accessibility of information.
- **COVID-19:** Collaboration with BCCA to develop and distribute guidance for CHD patients during the COVID-19 pandemic. Development of regional triage guidelines for Paediatricians with Expertise in Cardiology for managing outpatient waiting lists.

Business

- **For information;** Andy Tometzki has been successfully appointed as Chair of the national CHD Clinical Reference Group
- Draft network workplan and milestone plan for 2020/21 submitted to NHS England for review.
- Survey conducted with key network stakeholders to capture perspectives on network priorities for the next 5 years across fetal, paediatric and adult CHD services. This will help inform the 5 year strategy currently being drafted for the network.
- Continued development of the CHD performance dashboard to enable online population of data by centres and improved design, automation and granularity of reports both at a network and a centre level.
- Promoting and progressing the use of virtual technology to deliver outpatient appointments particularly by level 1 clinicians in peripheral clinics across the network.
- Conducted engagement and self-assessment update visits with a number of the level 3 centres. These visits will provide current status against the CHD standards for all level 3 centres in the network, will indicate what progress has been made since the baseline assessment in 2016/17,

and will help inform the network work plan for the future.

- Support to newly established networks in South West and other developing CHD networks
- **COVID-19:** Regional CHD surge plans developed, established links with Thames, Valley and Wessex (Southampton) to enable CHD surge plans if required (key contacts lists, virtual MDT requirements), initiated and leading the national CHD (weekly) and regional CHD network. (fortnightly) conference calls. Support reconfiguration of CHD services across the network, developing guidance and communication for level 1 centre for peripheral clinics.

Education and research

- Monthly Bitesize education initiative “Lesion of the month” continues for all clinical nurse specialists and link nurses across the network.
- Inaugurate network psychology training event held with psychologists attending from across the whole network region.
- **COVID-19;** Health professional COVID-19 password protected page set up on CHD website with all current guidance , education/webinars, research and useful links relating to the pandemic and CHD.

Communications and Engagement

- Charity stakeholder event held for all local CHD charities to share what’s been happening and to promote collaborative working.
- Continued to run #My question campaign on Trust, Children’s hospital and CHD charities facebook sites. The purpose of this campaign was to address some common queries our patients and families have, signposting them to a number of useful resources on the network website.
- Survey conducted with patient representatives and network board to capture current experience of role of patient representatives in the network and to understand how this might be improved
- Spring newsletter for CHD network drafted for distribution to network members.
- Network attendance and presentation at the Welsh Specialised Services Health Committee audit day
- **COVID-19:** Set up of COVID-19 webpage on the network website with resources for patients, families and staff. This includes general advice, CHD specific advice and useful resources for wellbeing and mental health. Fortnightly conference call established with network members and weekly national CHD network call. Weekly reporting to Specialist Commissioners and involvement in a number of regional calls.

Planned Progress for next quarter (Q1: Apr-Jun 2020)

- Revise timeframes and finalise CHD Network work plan for 2020, for review and approval by Network Board and NHS England.
- Draft 5 year strategy for the CHD network to be reviewed at Network Board in June 2020 (virtual) for approval.
- Continue with self-assessment and engagement visits (virtual) with level 3 centres in the network.
- Complete development work on performance dashboard and implement for network.
- Continue to support level 1 paediatric centre with developing a plan for provision of 9 transition clinics in peripheral areas.
- Evaluate #my question campaign.
- Joint working with IM&T on improving image sharing across the network. Exploring potential for virtual clinic provision in peripheral centres.
- Continue work to develop nurse competencies for CHD.
- Design GP education programme for CHD red flags.
- **COVID-19:** Capture new ways of working to support, promote and sustain these practises where appropriate including virtual clinics. Support the development of restoration plans for CHD

services both nationally and regionally. Review events, education and training plans for next 6 months with a view to virtual provision where possible.

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
Delay in progressing network business as usual work due to pandemic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revision of network workplan to reflect current priorities. Delivery of network events and education virtually where possible
Image sharing continues to be an issue across the region	There are a number of workarounds to this issue that are specific to each centre
*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	