



South Wales and South West
**Congenital Heart
Disease Network**

Network Nursing Strategy

27th November 2018
Network Board
Coldra Court



Purpose of session

- Up-date on the link nurse role
- Background
- Current situation
- Sign off nursing strategy
- Sign off the job description for the role of the Link Nurse

Standards

B4(L3)	Each Local Children's Cardiology Centre must have a locally designated 0.25 WTE registered children's nurse with a specialist interest to participate in cardiology clinics, provide support to inpatients and deal with requests for telephone advice.	Within 1 year
B5(L3)	The network Children's Cardiac Nurse Specialist Team will provide support, education and a link to the outpatient and ward nursing staff at the Local Children's Cardiology Centre. A local link nurse will be identified who can be a point of contact within the Local Children's Cardiology Centre.	Immediate

B4(L3)	ACHD Specialist Nurses from the Specialist ACHD Surgical Centre or Specialist ACHD Centre will provide support, education and a link to the outpatient and ward nursing staff at Local ACHD Centres. A local link nurse will be identified who can be a point of contact within the Local ACHD Centre.	Immediate
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Background

- Recruiting Link Nurses in year 1 very slow
- 2018 Level 1 and 2 link nurse meetings 6 monthly
- Discussed 3 successes and 3 challenges
- Monthly meetings with BRHC cardiac nursing staff facilitating communication
- Survey monkey undertaken

Current situation

This year....

- Limited engagement in South West
- National CHD Network meeting in Leeds October 9th
- Nursing strategy and link nurse role discussed, excellent engagement in Leeds
- 40 link nurses attended a study day
- No funding in Leeds for these staff, positive approach

- Link nurse meeting November 1st in Bristol
- Nursing strategy drafted
- Link nurse job description up-dated
- Survey monkey overview 15/ 11 responses

Key objectives

- **Communication**
- *‘A link nurse as point of contact for the Network’*
- Communicate about the CHD network to local teams, pts and families
- Provide some additional clinical support to patients and their families e.g sign posting to the website
- Provide support the medical team
- Attend local and national education events
- Sign post other staff to education events

Successes

- Excellent link nurse support in Taunton adults.
- Participating in clinics, supporting an occasional in-patient and a part time advice line.
- Nurse contact details provided in clinics
- Taunton paediatric team attended recent link nurse day, joint working developing

- Visit planned to Exeter children's service on December 7th, planning to see adult team on the same day

- Gloucester OPD

- Welsh link nurses

Challenges

- Identifying link nurses who are good communicators (left 18 months ago)
- Education link nurses if they are not given time to attend training
- Setting up local training (teaching students), Trelisk.
- Support for link nurse to visit level 1 centre to get experience and understand patient pathway
- Funding
- Comments?



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Nursing Strategy Document

Discussion





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Feedback 10 mins



Link Nurse in level 3 centers

Job description

Discussion



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Feedback 10 mins





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Thank you

