

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 England		
Network Core Team	Louise Hudson (Manager), Stephanie Curtis (Clinical Director), Jess Hughes / Sheena Vernon (Lead Nurse), Rachel Burrows (Support Manager)		
Reporting period:	Q2 (Jul-Sep 2023)	Overall Status:	Green

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 (Q2: Jul-Sep 2023):

Clinical

- South Wales Self-Assessment progress reviews continued for paediatric and adult CHD services for each Health Board, in collaboration with the Wales Cardiac Network, liaising with WHSSC and Health Board Executives to highlight issues.
- Bi-annual network Adult & Paediatric CHD Clinical Nurse Specialist Away Day in Cardiff updating attendees on clinical, education, transition, youth work, ward developments and resilience in teams.
- Progressed the pilot project for improving transition across the network including draft SOP & support to the implementation of clinics.
- Continued joint initiative between Bristol and Cardiff to monitor paediatric delays in transfer, meeting as a T&F Group ahead of sending preliminary findings to WHSSC who had requested audit.
- Quarterly ECHO issues task and finish group met, focussing on education and future strategic direction and support for physiologist workforce.
- Progressed image sharing across the network, achieving flow of images between L1, L2, Swansea Bay and Aneurin Bevan and addressing issues with Exeter.
- Task and finish group met to address the communication of patient information from L1 to region focussing on ACHD JCC processes, documents, discharge summaries this quarter.
- Task and finish group met (June, July, Sept) to address transfer of care and lost to follow-up between paediatric and adult services focussing on audit of LTFU, patient information, pathway scoping, guideline, forms for transfer of patient.
- Specific Discharge Guidance at Transition to be presented at Clinical Governance Group (Oct).

Business and Governance

- Collected data from CHD services (both adults and paediatrics) across the Network and populated the 2022/23 performance dashboard ready for review at the Network Board.
- Network Board (Aug) – focussed on performance reporting, network T&F groups/projects, nursing developments across the Network, Annual Report and patient story.
- Reported CHD surgical and interventional waiting list information, % CHD activity restoration and escalated issues or risks to NHS England nationally at monthly national meetings.
- Amended TOR to widen CHD Board membership and engagement with the Network.
- Recruitment process and interviews held for Network Manager role.
- Recruitment process initiated for Board Chairperson.

Education and research

- Network link nurse (level 3) virtual sessions held bi-monthly to enable shared learning and best practice. Offered 1:1 support meets with Network Lead Nurses.
- Held BRHC link nurse meetings.

- Continued with monthly bitesize education initiative “Lesion of the month” for all clinical nurse specialists and link nurses across the network.

Communications and Engagement

- Held CHD Charities and Support Group meeting.
- Progressed arrangements for hosting of National Network of CHD & CRG Networks Day in Bristol in November; agenda focussing on national developments, research and workforce.
- Progressed arrangements for Bristol hosting British Congenital Cardiac Association Conference.
- Patient reps - Board pre-meetings and debriefs involving new patient reps.
- Refreshed the website pages including the clinical information professional pages.

Planned Progress for next quarter (Q3: Oct-Dec 2023)

- Continue to progress key workplan project areas including adoption of NHSE CHD standards and recommendations in South Wales, delays in paediatric transfers of care, ECHO issues, transition, elective recovery, DNA/Was Not Brought, Lost to Follow-Up, communication of patient information and image sharing.
- Continue to work with commissioners, providers and leads regionally and nationally to address service capacity issues associated with delays to elective recovery.
- Draft Plan on a Page for 2024/24 Network workplan focussing on ODN functions, aligned to new service specification, for sign-off at Network Board (Oct).
- Produce South Wales Self-Assessment progress review summary report for sign-off by Network Board (Oct).
- Interviews for CHD Network Board Chair.
- Joint Cardiac Network Board with L1 colleagues (Oct).
- Deliver Transition Study Half-Day (Oct).
- CHD Network Board (Oct).
- CHD Clinical Governance Group (quality improvement/audit updates) (Oct).
- Deliver ACHD Annual Study Day (Oct).
- Host BCCA and National Managers and Network of Networks meeting (Nov).
- Publish Network Autumn newsletter (Oct/Nov 2023).