

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	Michelle Jarvis (Manager), Stephanie Curtis (Clinical Director), Jess Hughes / Sheena Vernon (Lead Nurse), Rachel Burrows (Support Manager)		
Reporting period:	Q3 (Oct-Dec 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 of England, to work together to support patients of all ages with a congenital heart condition, and their families/carers.

Main achievements in this reporting period (Q3: Oct-Dec 2023):

Clinical

- Produced the South Wales Self-Assessment progress review summary report which was signed-off by Network Board (Oct).
- Continued joint initiative between Bristol and Cardiff to monitor paediatric delays in transfer, meeting as a Task and Finish Project Group having sent 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.
- Task and finish group met 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.
- Progressed the pilot project for improving transition across the network including draft SOP that was presented at Network Clinical Governance Forum.
- Specific Discharge Guidance at Transition for Minor Lesions presented and signed off at Network Clinical Governance Forum (Oct).
- Three audits presented at the Network Clinical Governance Forum (Oct) on Marfan medication, heart block requiring pacemakers following cardiac surgery, and the National CHD Audit Report (NCHDA) analysis.
- Commenced group looking at BHI ACHD interventional waiting times

Business and Governance

- New Network Manager commenced in post 28/11/23
- Recruitment process started for Board Chairperson.
- Drafted Plan on a Page for 2024/25 Network workplan focussing on ODN functions, signed off by Board, and presented at the W&C Programme Board.
- Network Board (Oct) – focussed on performance reporting, network T&F groups/projects, fetal cardiology service updates, and patient story.
- Collected data from CHD services (both adults and paediatrics) across the Network and populated the 2023/24 performance dashboard ready for review at the Network Board.
- Reported CHD surgical and interventional waiting list information, % CHD activity restoration and escalated issues or risks to NHS England nationally at monthly national meetings.
- Meeting held with the Plymouth paediatric and adult CHD teams
- Joint meeting with paediatric critical care network to discuss BRHC/CHD/PCC and winter planning
- ACHD 'gang' communication forum held with level 3 ACHD consultants.
- Joint Cardiac Network Board with Bristol senior management and clinical leads (Oct).

Education and research

- Bristol successfully hosted the British Congenital Cardiac Association Conference with approx. 520 attendees including key talks from the core CHD network team

- Delivered the transition study day (part 2) focusing on CHD.
- Delivered ACHD study day with over 80 attendees from across the network.
- Fetal Cardiology Study day held in Bristol
- 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.
- Network Research update presented at the Network Clinical Governance Forum

Communications and Engagement

- Hosted the National Network of CHD & CRG Networks Day in Bristol in November, to enable shared learning and collaborative working on similar challenges and projects – with 68 attendees from across the UK.
- Network winter newsletter published and distributed across the Network and beyond.
- Held CHD Charities and Support Group meeting.
- Patient reps - Board pre-meetings and debriefs involving new patient reps.
- Ran the network staff photo competition with the theme ‘changing seasons across the network’ as a wellbeing initiative and to signpost to the network website and newsletter.
- Young people transition evening held (Oct)

Planned Progress for next quarter (Q4: Jan-Mar 2024)

- Continue to work with commissioners, providers and leads regionally and nationally to address service capacity issues associated with delays to elective recovery.
- Appoint CHD Network Board Chair.
- Host bi-annual network Adult & Paediatric CHD Clinical Nurse Specialist Away Day in Bristol.
- Task and finish group meeting again in January to address the communication of patient information from L1 to region focussing on ACHD JCC processes, documents, discharge summaries.
- 2024/25 Workplan prioritisation session planned for January
- Network M&M and Network Board meetings in January
- Support the Listening event for Gloucester families with BRHC
- Support South Wales ACHD patient information event in Bridgend – organised by the ACHD CNS team.
- Support the Bristol Heart Festival with a mix of public talks and events.
- Deliver charities and support group meet