

Changes to vascular services



Plans for vascular care in Lancashire, South Cumbria and Wigan.

What, where and why



The **NHS** wants to improve **vascular services** for patients in **Lancashire, South Cumbria** and **Wigan**.



Vascular services treat blockages in the body's blood vessels. They help prevent strokes and save lives.



The aim is to make care safer and better by joining services. It should save money. It should also make it a good place for staff to work.



Now, both **Royal Preston Hospital** and **Royal Blackburn Hospital** do big vascular surgeries. Instead they want to have just one main centre.



One hospital should serve a certain number of people. It should also have all needed services on the same site. This doesn't happen now.

Getting feedback



People need to share their thoughts to help make the final decision better.



In past years, people shared their opinions in surveys. They want fast care, clear information, and good local support.



People also said they would **travel** further for better care.



People said keeping care close to home when possible is important.

Creating the plan



The **Vascular Programme Board** looked at many options. People helped decide what was best.

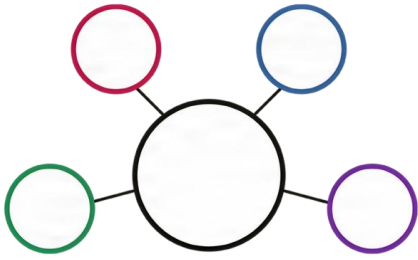


Experts think one big centre is better than two smaller ones. It helps with staffing and resources.



The plan is for one vascular network and one main hospital for artery surgery.

One vascular network



A network means specialists work together. It helps cover staff and gives good care everywhere.



Hospitals will work together as one team. This should make care better and more joined up.



Shared standards will make sure care is the same everywhere.



Having the same care everywhere helps with teamwork and makes care plans clearer.



Vascular surgeons will mainly work at Royal Preston Hospital. Some staff will help at other hospitals.



There needs to be enough staff and space for the plan to work well.



Local hospitals will have support from nurses and run local clinics.

One main hospital for artery surgery



The main centre will do big surgeries and have specialists ready all the time.



The **Royal Preston Hospital** will be the main centre. This is because it already has many important services on site.



The plan does not move all care to Preston. Only big surgeries and emergencies will be there.



Most local care stays the same. This includes clinics, tests and simple treatments.



Patients needing hospital stays for surgery will go to **Royal Preston Hospital**.



The goal is to keep hospital stays as short as possible.



Better results should come from having one specialist centre with experienced teams.

What this plan will mean



Around 540 extra patients each year will go to **Royal Preston Hospital**. They would have gone to **Royal Blackburn Hospital** before.



Travel could take longer for those who used the **Royal Blackburn Hospital** before.



The NHS will try to keep local care and help with travel where possible.



The NHS will work with ambulance services to plan transport for emergencies and patient care.



The plan will also consider parking and travel support where possible.



More **vascular beds** and a second theatre are planned at **Royal Preston Hospital**.



Interventional radiology is important for surgery. The main centre will need the right equipment and space.



Waiting times should not get longer.



Research shows putting care in one place can improve results for big operations.



Other areas have already made similar changes with positive results.

How to give feedback



People can give feedback through surveys or events. They can see dates and details online.



Feedback will be analysed to help decide the final plan. This should happen in 2027.



Your opinion matters, so share your thoughts before the consultation closes on 27 November.



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