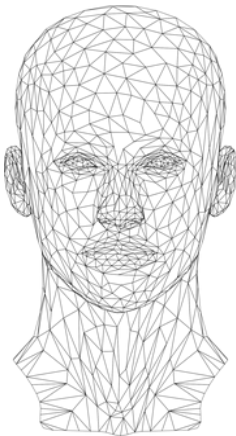


Head and Neck Workstream

Programme Briefing and Key Messages

Issue 1: November 2018

Welcome to the first edition of the Head and Neck Workstream Programme briefing which aims to keep stakeholders informed and up to date about the work of the Head and Neck Steering Group by regularly providing Key Messages and requesting your comments and views.



Background

[Healthier Lancashire and South Cumbria](#) - which is the [Integrated Care System \(ICS\)](#), and provider organisations have identified a number of clinical services that need support with certain elements if they are to continue to be provided in a safe and sustainable way. Head and Neck Services have been identified as one of these services. The services within the scope of this programme are adult services requiring an overnight stay (elective and non- elective) in Head and Neck Cancer services and Oral and Maxillofacial services.

A Head and Neck Steering Group was formed in February 2018 to progress this improvement work and its members are representatives from:

- Each of the Hospital Trusts in Lancashire and South Cumbria from a variety of disciplines including Head and Neck Cancer Surgeons, Restorative Dentistry, Oncology, Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons
- [The Swallows](#) – a support group for those affected by head and neck cancer
- Primary Care
- Commissioning organisations
- [NHS Right Care](#)
- [Getting It Right First Time \(GIRFT\)](#)
- The Integrated Care System's Programme Management Team

A case for change....

The first steps in this improvement work are to obtain a better understanding of the current set up and the arrangement of Head and Neck Services in Lancashire and South Cumbria and to set out a clear vision of the desired future state - what we are seeking to achieve and the reasons for this, and what the benefits will be. Clinicians will then work together to develop a list of options for delivering Head and Neck Services that are futureproof. The vision for the programme is as follows:



For the **people of Lancashire and South Cumbria** the work aims to:

- Provide timely and equitable access to Head and Neck services across Lancashire and South Cumbria.
- Provide world class surgical outcomes supported by diagnostic, day case, outpatient and Allied Health Professions services provided close to home.
- Ensure that there is involvement of service users and carers in service development and review

For the **people working within the service** the work aims to:

- Retain and attract a high calibre workforce that provides excellent care pathways
- Foster learning and growth through collaborative working and create a service which is stimulating and dynamic in order to attract a high calibre workforce.
- Provide increased opportunities for research and development

Key Messages from the November 2018 Head and Neck Steering Group meeting

- Use a service planning tool

To support the gathering of data and information to progress the planning phase of the programme, the group intend to use a specialised service planning tool which will:

- Provide a way to determine a population-based view of service provision
- Obtain a consistent baseline of information
- Provide a consistent approach to considering any constraints in delivering clinically appropriate services
- Support the development of 'options' for future service configuration and delivery that:
 - maintain or enhance clinical outcomes
 - raise standards of care
 - improve people's experience of care
 - maintain the safety and sustainability of services

- Creating a "Case for Change"

A "Case for change" document that sets out the current service provision, the drivers for change, projected demand, performance and strengths and weaknesses of the Head and Neck services is in development. It will demonstrate that there has been a methodical and considered approach to the development of any proposed service change.

- Creating a single Head and Neck Multidisciplinary Team (MDT) Network meeting

Currently two separate Head and Neck MDT meetings take place...one that involves Blackpool Teaching Hospitals Trust, Lancashire Teaching Hospitals Trust and University Hospitals of Morecambe Bay Trust and a second one for East Lancashire Hospitals Trust. The benefits of having a single Head and Neck MDT Network meeting are:

- Reduction in the vulnerability of operating as smaller units
- Improved patient outcomes due to increased experience and insight in planning patients' care and standardising treatment plans across the region
- Improved collaborative working and peer support

Clinicians will meet to agree what a good Network MDT meeting would look like and how this can be achieved. A plan will then be created to support the actions that are needed to create the Network MDT.

Next meeting of the Head and Neck Steering Group

The next meeting of the Head and Neck Steering Group is due to take place on Tuesday 4th December 2018 and the second edition of this Key Messages document will be shared following this.

Question and Queries

This briefing is for use within your own organisation and across your local system, for discussion and information. Please feel free to include it on meeting agendas and circulation lists as you see fit.

If you have any questions or queries, please contact healthier.lsc@nhs.net and we will endeavour to respond as soon as possible.