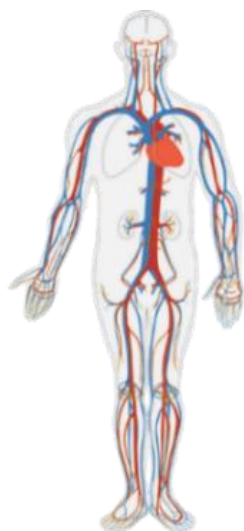


Vascular Services Programme

Programme Briefing and Key Messages

Issue 5: June 2019

Welcome to the fifth edition of this briefing which aims to keep stakeholders informed and up to date about the work of the Vascular Programme Board by regularly providing Key Messages and inviting your comments and views.



Key Messages from the 27/06/19 Vascular Programme Board

- Varicose veins pathway

Elaine Johnstone, the Chair of the Policy Development and Implementation Group, gave a presentation to the Board on the variation in commissioning policies relating to the treatment of varicose veins and the impact this has on patients and providers. Elaine described both the historic position and the present. To see the presentation slides please click [here](#).

- Risk register review

The programme's risk register was reviewed by the Board, who checked the content and suggested amendments. It was agreed that the residual probability score for two risks relating to commitment levels would be reduced as the programme benefited from extremely good support to the Programme Board and clinical engagement throughout the programme.

An additional risk was added to reflect the lack of clarity around the implementation plan once the preferred clinical model is known.

- Getting It Right First Time (GIRFT) reviews summary

A representative from [GIRFT](#) gave a presentation on data relating to ELHT's and LTHT's activity around abdominal aortic aneurysm (AAA), carotid endarterectomy and peripheral arterial disease. It was identified that good community vascular services were key to lower amputation rates. Areas of deprivation were also a factor in higher amputation rates.

- Vascular Data Analytics Subgroup

The programme's Data Subgroup has created a data pack to support the case for change and to provide information on current performance which will help the appraisal of the shortlisted options for delivering vascular services in Lancashire and South Cumbria. GIRFT have been involved in the production of the data pack, and the data from these two sources share (mainly) consistent themes. The pack contains information sourced directly from the Trusts, Hospital Episodes Statistics (HES) and GIRFT. It was agreed that it was impossible to have a perfect data pack, but the Data Subgroup feel the pack will be as final as it can be once the most recent National Vascular Registry (NVR) data is added.

- Scoring the shortlisted options for delivering vascular services in Lancashire and South Cumbria

An information pack is being created to support the exercise to score each of the shortlisted options against a set of criteria. The pack will help members of the scoring panel to be as informed as possible when deciding on what score to give each option. To ensure the pack is a useful resource, the Vascular Programme Board members worked through the emerging information pack to comment on the content so far and whether it was helpful and relevant, or whether additional or alternative information was needed. Along with suggestions for improvement, it was noted:

- some of the criteria would score the same for each shortlisted service delivery option, there was no differentiation

- a simplified version of the pack would be welcome as the amount of information felt overwhelming, and especially so for a non-clinical person.

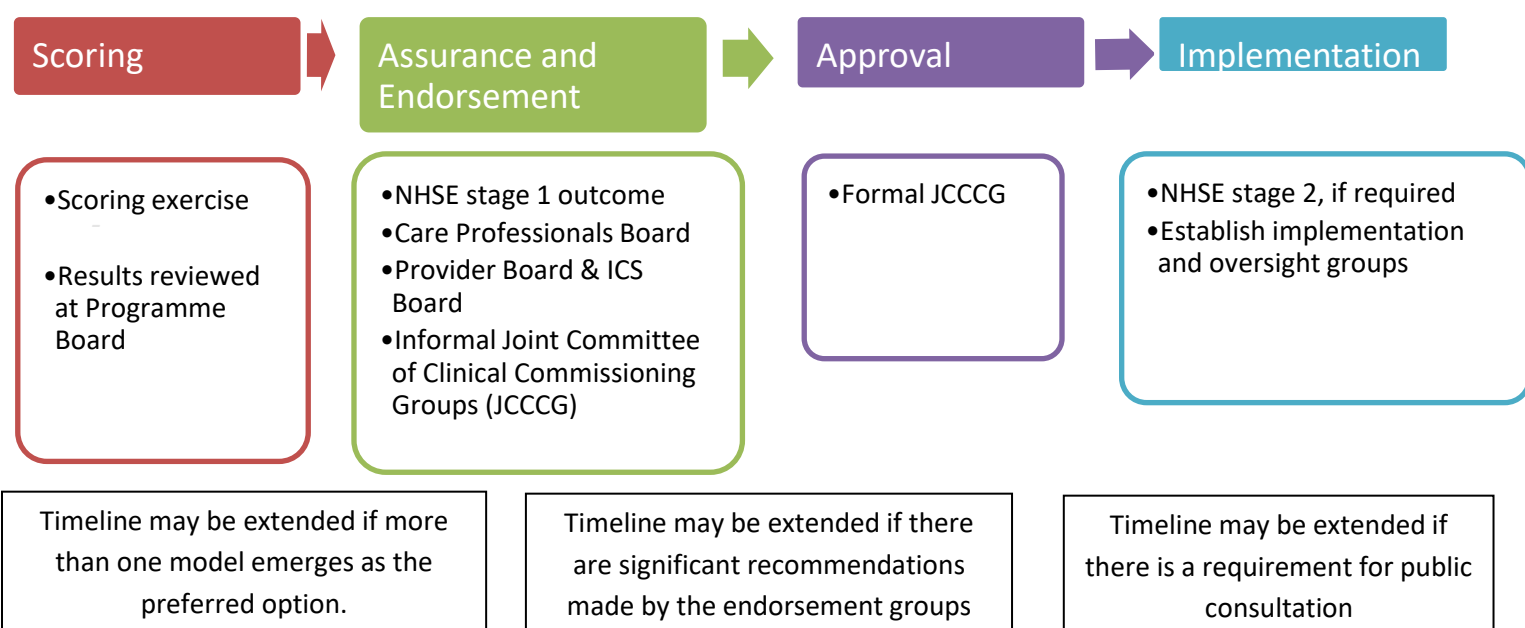
It was agreed that time would be dedicated to work through the evidence pack's contents at the next meeting of the Vascular Programme Board.

- **Shortlisted options**

To be able to score the four proposed options for delivering vascular services in Lancashire and South Cumbria against some of the criteria, more information is needed about what the model would mean in terms of the estimated capital costs. Representatives from ELHT and LTHT agreed to work up the associated costings of the single centre and two centre options to understand the differences involved. This information will be available at the next meeting of the Programme Board and will also contribute to the content of the scoring information pack. The scoring exercise will be carried out once the costings issue has been addressed.

- **Timeline**

Once the scoring exercise has taken place and the preferred clinical model(s) is known, the approval process will begin. The preferred model(s) will be presented at key meetings to secure the approval to implement. The following diagram describes the process that will be followed:



Next meeting of the Vascular Programme Board

The next meeting of the Vascular Programme Board is due to take place on 23rd July 2019 and the sixth edition of this Key Messages document will be shared following this.

Questions 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 sharonwalkden@nhs.net and we will endeavour to respond as soon as possible.