



Welcome to the eighth 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 26/09/19 Vascular Programme Board

- A patient representative's perspective

A patient representative described the challenges they saw for delivering vascular services across Lancashire and South Cumbria based on their experience of working in industry and the similar problems encountered there. Whilst there are similarities between NHS services and the private sector in terms of competition and cost pressures, it was recognised that vascular services are a highly specialised area. The exercise to score the shortlisted options will determine the preferred option(s) for delivering services, and regardless of the outcome of this, the focus for the future will be on collaboration and not competition to ensure that vascular services continue to be safe and sustainable..

- Travel times analysis

Further work has been carried out around travel times by specialist commissioning colleagues. The work includes travel times to sites by CCG and travel times for scenarios relating to two sites and single site options. The data relating to Wigan CCG showed there was no vast difference in travel times for the different service delivery options. The report also described the impact of a single site option – there would always be a negative travel impact on some part of the population with this option. The Barrow area was highlighted as having a reasonable sized population that were already compromised in relation to access and this needed consideration, not just in relation to this programme, but other programmes where centralisation was involved too.

- Collaborative working

The clinical directors and interventional radiologists were tasked with working together to design a set of collaborative working principles. It was agreed the next steps to improve collaboration would be:

- to reinstate the joint audit meeting
- East Lancashire Hospitals Trust to join Lancashire Teaching Hospitals Trust's MDT meetings
- to align the work on the Getting It Right First Time (GIRFT) improvement plans

There is also a need to improve IT compatibility and the sharing of information between Trusts. The Diagnostics Programme Board is looking at a cloud-based solution to support the sharing of information between the different IT systems in place at Trusts.

- The shortlisted options for delivering vascular services

The group reviewed the possible [options](#) for delivering vascular services ensure there was a good understanding around what each option involved before the scoring exercise commenced.

- Scoring the options for delivering vascular services

The timelines for the scoring exercise and the assurance and approval process are:

Scoring Timeline

30/09/19 – 13/10/19 Scoring exercise takes place

24/10/19 Results of the exercise will be shared at Vascular Programme Board

Assurance and Approval Timeline

The outcome of the scoring exercise will then be shared with the following forums:

01/11/19 Care Professionals Board (CPB)

20/11/19 System Leaders Executive

05/12/19 Informal Joint Committee of Clinical Commissioning Groups (JCCCG)

09/01/19 Formal JCCCG

Dates for attending the meetings of the Specialist Commissioners and Wigan CCG Senior Leadership team are still to be confirmed.

- Improving engagement of the workforce with the programme

To look at ways to improve engagement with the wider workforce, meetings have taken place at Trusts with managers from the different specialist teams working with vascular services e.g. nursing, radiology, theatres, therapies. The purpose of the meetings was to understand the best methods to reach this wider workforce who may not access the Key Messages or be able to attend the engagement meetings. The main findings were:

- The meetings enabled the distribution list for the Key Messages document to be strengthened
- AHP representation has been identified for both the scoring panel and at Vascular Programme Board meetings
- Other opportunities for engagement have been identified through existing departmental and Trust wide communications
- It is important to ensure there is clear information for the contacts within Trusts to enable people to ask questions and share feedback

Next meeting of the Vascular Programme Board

The next meeting of the Vascular Programme Board is due to take place on 24th October 2019.

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 respond as soon as possible.