

**Minutes**  
**North West Surgery in Children ODN Oversight Group Meeting**  
**Friday 10<sup>th</sup> June 2022 10am – 12 noon via MS Teams**

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|-----------|---|--------------|
| <b>1</b>  | <p><b>Introductions and Apologies</b></p> <p>Lucy Allton, Network Lead Nurse, welcomed all to the meeting and thanked all for joining.</p> <p>For attendance and apologies, please see appendix 1.</p>  | <b>LA</b>    |
| <b>2.</b> | <p><b>Review of previous minutes and actions – March 2022</b></p>  <p>Notes North West Surgery in Children</p> <p><b>Actions</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Cath Doherty to share My Planned Care information, once finalised. – Complete.</li> <li>2. Jo McBride to share information about the working groups (ENT T&amp;A initial one) – Complete.</li> </ol>  | <b>LA</b>    |
| <b>3.</b> | <p><b>VAST (Valuing All Staff Together) Project, presented by Sam Torkington &amp; Shannon Smith, VAST Clinical Educators</b></p>  <p>VAST Intro .pptx</p> <p>Contact the VAST Team for any further information. Contact details can be found on the last page of PowerPoint document.</p>   | <b>SS/ST</b> |
| <b>4.</b> | <p><b>Update from National Surgery in Children ODN, given by Lucy Allton &amp; Ian Clegg</b></p> <p><b>Bivona Tracheostomy Tube Shortage</b></p> <p>Lucy Allton updated the group that the manufacturing of tubes had resumed, although manufacturing levels are unlikely to reach normal levels until early 2023. A risk stratification tool was created by the North West LTV ODN Lead Nurse, Elaine O'Brien and NHSE guidance is also awaiting approval prior to release (this will be shared via the ODN once approved).</p> <p><b>Shiley Monitor and Report Email</b></p> <p>An email was circulated to the North West Paediatric ODN's regarding an issue with the Shiley 6.5 PELF Ped Long Cuffless, where it was reported staff were unable to remove the introducer from the tube in one instance and struggled with the second. Both incidents were noted as having the same batch number: 20G1179JZX exp 2025-07-30. Covidien and MHRA have been made aware of the reported issues.</p> <p><b>The Acute Abdominal Pain Pathway for Children.</b></p> <p>The Acute Abdominal Pain Draft Pathway for Children has been circulated for comment and is also available on the GIRFT website as a draft pathway. Comments should be sent directly to Rachael Harwood, <a href="mailto:rachel.harwood@alderhey.nhs.uk">rachel.harwood@alderhey.nhs.uk</a>. Lucy added that the NW SiC ODN had been invited to a meeting with North East and Yorkshire and Humber to look at best implementation plans for the pain pathway.</p> <p><b>Hepatitis and Monkeypox</b></p> | <b>LA/IC</b> |

Lucy reported from the National Paediatric Critical Care meeting, that hepatitis issues are ongoing, however numbers are decreasing. There are no further updates currently on monkeypox other than reminders to wear PPE when a child presents with a rash.

### **Testicular Torsion Pathway**

Lucy confirmed that the next pathway NCEPOD will be reviewing will be Testicular Torsion.

### **Technology for Surgery**

There have recently been several presentations at the National meeting on technology tools that are being used or introduced, such as pre-op tools and communication tools. The ODN will be following this up with a data collection exercise in the region to ascertain who is using what. This will also be added to the agenda of the next North West Surgery in Children ODN meeting for discussion.

### **RSV Increase Nationally**

There has been a national rise in the number of patients seen with RSV. NHSE are projecting this will potentially follow a similar trajectory as last summer. Plans to review the Winter Surge Plan are in place.

### **Swabbing Update**

Ian Clegg gave an overview of the new swabbing guidelines, which were released in May 2022. The aim of the guideline is to bring preop services up to the same standard as those for adults.



preop.pptx

### **Preop Mentimetre and presentation**

Questions and results.

Q: Do you have a consultant delivered paediatric preop service in your hospital?

Results: Yes 0 No 14

Q: What are your barriers to having a consultant delivered preop service?

Comments made were:

- Limited paediatric anaesthetists
- Time available
- Staff availability
- Time in job plans/sporadic multiple speciality kids scheduling/nursing support/admin support
- Job planning ASA1 fit children for day case. Need nurse led service. Excellent.
- Fewer patients so nurse's pre-op the patients and any concerns are raised with consultant.
- Not aware that it has been an option, when the pre-op service was set up it was a nurse led service.
- Lack of available time for consultant/nursing staff/admin
- Different specialities, ENT, general surg, eye, dental. System not sophisticated enough to capture all of these.
- Low numbers. Low complexity of surgery. ENT and dental only. No one above ASA2 under 2 years or under 2 stone. No problems ever. Service works very well as it is.

Ian then gave an overview of the Best Practice Guidance Preassessment Services for Children.



Best  
Practice\_Preassessm

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| 5. | <p><b>ODN Update</b><br/> <b>Su De and Cath Doherty, Co Clinical Leads, NW SiC ODN, updated on:</b><br/> <b>Regional Clinical Working Groups</b><br/> <b>Adenotonsillectomy Working Group</b></p> <p>Su De informed the group that the initial meeting had taken place and was very useful and well attended. The pathway was evaluated by the group, from referral to postop assessment. Following the meeting, a draft document had been written and shared for comments by the 17<sup>th</sup> June 2022. The comments will be collated and reviewed at a final meeting, which will be held on 8<sup>th</sup> July 2022.</p> <p><b>Planned Non Specialised Working Groups</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– An appendix Working Group will be initiated once the pathway is finalised.</li> <li>– A Forearm Fracture Working Group will be established to look at equity across the region in the management of simple forearm fractures.</li> <li>– Preop Management; will be a whole management programme rather than preop assessment.</li> <li>– Nursing and Allied Health Professional Working Group – Lucy Allton has sent email to units across the region for nomination of names by 17<sup>th</sup> June 2022. If there are any nominations, please send directly to <a href="mailto:lucy.allton@mft.nhs.uk">lucy.allton@mft.nhs.uk</a></li> </ul> <p><b>Planned Specialised Working Groups</b><br/> <b>Oesophageal Atresia and Tracheo-Oesophageal Fistula (OA/TOF) Working Group</b></p> <p>An email has been circulated requesting engagement, with the first meeting scheduled for the 1<sup>st</sup> July 2022.</p> <p><b>Hub Working</b></p> <p>Cath Doherty asked for feedback from the group regarding hub working setups or hubs that are already running. Su De informed that Cheshire and Mersey have 2 hubs running, although primarily adult hubs, some additional funding has been used for dental work also. Ian Clegg informed the group that there are no hubs in Lancs &amp; South Cumbria due to access to a paediatrician and out of hours working. Tracy Denny, Ward Manager for day case at Preston added that a pilot for day case services in Chorley was planned with safety measures in place.</p> <p><b>Button Battery Guideline</b></p> <p>The Button Battery Guideline is now fully ratified and available on the NWTS website.</p> <p><b>ODN Site Visits</b></p> <p>Lucy Allton informed the group that the ODN have almost completed all site visits, with only 4 sites left to visit. 3 of these are already scheduled.</p> <p><b>ODN Website</b></p> <p>Su De informed that the content deadline is September 2022 so should be built and populated following this.</p> | SD/CD/LA |
| 6. | <p><b>Dashboard</b></p> <p>Cath Doherty shared waiting list data snapshot comparing the end of February 2022 to the 1<sup>st</sup> May 2022. Su De added that in Cheshire and Mersey letters are being sent out to opt into the waiting list as some conditions do resolve and get better.</p>  <p>Data<br/>Presentation[4] - R</p>  | CD       |
| 7. | <p><b>Updates from Region</b><br/> <b>GM</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Wrightington, Wigan and Leigh NHS Foundation Trust, Dan Smith</b><br/> 464 patients currently waiting on paediatric surgery waiting list, 58 have dates, the remaining 406 are yet to be dated. The patients are predominantly P4, only 38 are</li> </ul>  | All      |

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|-----|--|----|
|     | <p>P2 and 31 of these are dated. The largest numbers are in MaxFax, with significant numbers in ENT and urology also. There are only 2 patients who are over 104 weeks, both have dates. 1 patient is approaching 104 weeks yet to be dated in urology and 4 patients beyond 72 weeks. There are currently more long waiters in adults than in children's, across all specialties. The target is to get waiting lists back to 52 weeks by the end of the year. Dan added that there has been a huge push on number of patients on lists, with good improvements.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>General GM/ICS update, Cath Doherty</b><br/>Looking at subspecialty groups such as ENT, Dental, Paediatric Surgery, WIWO Model and assisting to establish the 3 sub-regional hub sites. The North and Central Hubs are established, and work is currently underway in establishing a South East sector hub. Adam Hebden commented on the work that was completed pre-covid, which has been beneficial to the task and finish groups, who are looking at all of the work to ensure it is still completely relevant. Resources in the programme team are being accessed to look at the possibility of bolstering this.</li> <li>• <b>Royal Bolton Hospital, Rachel</b><br/>Rachel confirmed that their weekday lists are underfilled also, however weekend lists are still being planned although these have been utilised for autistic patients who are likely to need pre-med, whom the quitter environment at the weekend works very well for. There have been no issues staffing weekend lists as pay incentives have been available.</li> </ul> <p><b>C&amp;M</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Countess of Chester NHS Foundation Trust, Paul Jameson</b><br/>Still in difficult position where things are getting started, however still priority being given to adults, particularly on cancer pathways. First general surgery paediatric list next week. Struggling with paediatric ophthalmology due to surgeon retirement and still not recruited to.</li> <li>• <b>Leighton Hospital, Andrea Collins</b><br/>More or less back to normal pre-covid surgery activity, with the second surgical list today.</li> <li>• <b>Arrow Park Hospital, Annette Cooper</b><br/>Some theatres closed due to ventilation issues, this has resulted in a few cancellations over the last few months, however all are back up and running now.</li> </ul> <p><b>L&amp;SC</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Blackpool Teaching Hospital, Isabelle</b><br/>Paediatric lists back to normal. There has been an issue in recent weeks with the escalation of the trust, the area has now been deescalated and are back to normal activity.</li> <li>• <b>University Hospital of Morecombe Bay, Laura</b><br/>Surgery back to normal activity, however building work has impacted on available bed spaces. Focus on list efficiency to ensure utilised. Difficulties in staffing for extra lists, staff generally exhausted.</li> <li>• <b>Lancashire Teaching Hospital, Tracy Denny</b><br/>There are pressures for staff to cover extra lists at the weekend, however weekday lists are not being fully utilised, which causes frustrations.</li> </ul> |    |
| 8.  | <p><b>Any other Business</b></p> <p><b>Supply issues</b></p> <p>Su De raised the issue regarding supply of equipment, noting shortages of certain sizes of ET tubes, as well as the tracheostomy tubes and coblation tonsillectomy tubes. Su asked the group if there was any knowledge of reason behind and any supply problems that might prove problematic for children's surgery, no information was fed back.</p>   | LA |
| 9.  | <p><b>Actions</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Nursing and Allied Health Professional Working Group – names to be forwarded to <a href="mailto:lucy.allton@mft.nhs.uk">lucy.allton@mft.nhs.uk</a></li> </ol>  |    |
| 10. | <p><b>Date of Next Meeting</b></p>   |    |

## **APPENDIX 1**

### Attendees

#### Network

Lucy Allton, Lead Nurse, NW PCC/SiC ODN  
Su De, Co Clinical Lead, NW Surgery in Children ODN  
Cath Doherty, Co Clinical Lead, NW Surgery in Children ODN  
Ian Clegg, Co Clinical Lead, NW Surgery in Children ODN  
Jo Birkmyre Project Support Officer NW Paediatric Networks  
Helen Blakesley, Network Manager, NW PCC/SiC/LTV ODN  
Shannon Smith, Clinical Educator, NW PCC/SiC/LTV ODN  
Sam Torkington, Clinical Educator, NW PCC/SiC/LTV ODN  
Elaine O'Brien, Lead Nurse, NW LTV ODN

#### NW ODN Partnership Board

Adam Hebden, Associate Director of Strategy, Royal Manchester Children's Hospital

#### Alder Hey Children's Hospital

Carolyn Cowperthwaite, Alder Hey Children's Hospital  
Josef Taylor, Alder Hey Children's Hospital

#### Royal Manchester Children's Hospital

Rachael Barber, Royal Manchester Children's Hospital  
Victoria Healey, Royal Manchester Children's Hospital  
Janette Platt, Royal Manchester Children's Hospital  
Sreeja Ambattuchittethu, Royal Manchester Children's Hospital

#### Cheshire and Mersey

David Banks, East Cheshire NHS Trust  
Nicola Slilem, Southport & Ormskirk Hospitals NHS Trust  
Mohamed Kazem, Mid Cheshire Hospitals NHS FT  
Andrea Collins, Mid Cheshire Hospitals NHS FT  
Jill Tomlinson, Warrington and Hatton Teaching Hospital NHS FT  
Joanne Burke, Warrington and Hatton Teaching Hospital NHS FT  
Anne McGlade, Countess of Chester Hospital NHS Trust  
Paul Jameson, Countess of Chester Hospital NHS Trust  
Karen Flewitt, Countess of Chester Hospital NHS Trust  
Annette Cooper, Wirral University Teaching Hospital NHS FT

#### Lancs & South Cumbria

Laura Norton, Morecambe Bay NHS FT  
Clare Stafford, Blackpool Teaching Hospital NHS Trust  
Isabel Spencer, Blackpool Teaching Hospital NHS Trust  
Claudia Spalding, ELHT  
Katie Ceraldi, ELHT  
Anna Sibley, ELHT  
Tracy Denny, Lancashire Teaching Hospital

#### Greater Manchester

Dan Smith, Wrightington, Wigan and Leigh NHS FT  
Ann Carey, Wrightington, Wigan and Leigh NHS FT  
Simone Gorman, Northern Care Alliance NHS FT  
Sarah Ashworth, The Pennine Acute Hospitals NHS Trust  
Rachel Smith, Bolton FT  
Edward Kam, Stockport Foundation Trust

NHS England/Commissioning/Other

Kelly Taylor, Head of CYP Transformation Programme NHSE/NW

Andrea Doherty, Specialised Commissioning, NHSE

Julie Flaherty, ICS CYP SCN

**Apologies:**

Jo McBride

Alex Blackmore

Carrie Bowen

Sarah Salka

Gordon McLellan Yuill

Claire Finley

Mike Marsden

Elaine Paul

Andrea Myerscough

Megan Dalton-Scott

Clare MacGlashan

Dani Jones

Nicola Askew

Atul Tiwari

Jenny Dalzell

Andrea Davies

Claire Finley

Leanne Mulholland

Laura Greenwood