



Minutes
North West Surgery in Children ODN Oversight Group Meeting
Friday 8th March 2024 10am – 12 noon via MS Teams

1.	<p>Introductions and Apologies</p> <p>Joanna McBride, Network Director for North West PCC SiC LTV ODN's welcomed all to the meeting and thanked all for joining.</p> <p>For attendance and apologies, please see appendix 1.</p>	JM
2.	 <p>Notes North West Surgery in Children</p> <p>Minutes agreed.</p> <p>Actions</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Donna Dodd GIRFT Implementation Manager for Cheshire and Mersey, to update at next meeting on scoping of ENT services across the region. – Donna Dodd informed the group that the action was to identify ENT resources in C&M. Donna informed the group that in C&M, ENT is part of the clinical pathways programme which sits within provider collaborative. Stakeholder engagement workshops were held in autumn 2023, identifying key challenges. The challenges within the community included development of workforce capacity, acute day case and elective pathways, challenges were also identified around outpatient pathways, referrals, and triage. The newly appointed Cheshire and Mersey ENT Clinical Lead, Mr Sunil Sharma from Alder Hey, intends to relaunch the ENT system network, to include paediatrics. The terms of reference have been drafted and work to improve engagement is planned. The Cheshire and Mersey transformation team have also prioritised ENT as is one of the biggest outpatient challenges. 2. Attendees to investigate if their Trusts are participating in the Faster First pilot. – Donna Dodd confirmed that she can share a list of the Trusts participating in the pilot from the North West, these will be shared with the minutes from the meeting. 3. Donna Dodds to provide ODN with Further Faster handbooks with ODN for forward sharing. – Complete 4. ODN will present data comparisons by speciality at the next meeting. – Joanna McBride informed the group that the ODN would require more time to complete, and the action would be rolled over. 5. Su De to share WIWO nursing competencies and requirements with Annette Cooper. – Will be shared with the minutes from the meeting. - Complete 	JM
3.	<p>Update from National, Regional and ODN</p> <p>National Update</p>  <p>1 - National Update.pptx</p> <p>Joanna McBride gave a national update including the following headlines:</p>	JM/HB/FC

- Measles – New webinar providing essential update on measles in children, ahead of an outbreak: [*NEW* RCPCH Webinar: Measles – an update \(28/02/2024\) – RCPCH Learning](#)
- RSV vaccine – anticipated to be available in June 2024.
- Martha’s Rule implementation – [NHS England » Implementation of first phase of Martha’s Rule](#)
There will be 100 sites in the initial pilot. The 3 main components are:
 1. All staff in NHS trusts must have 24/7 access to a rapid review from a critical care outreach team, which they can contact should they have concerns about a patient.
 2. All patients, their families, carers and advocates must also have access to the same 24/7 rapid review from a critical care outreach team, which they can contact via mechanisms advertised around the hospital and more widely if they are worried about the patient’s condition. This is Martha’s Rule.
 3. The NHS must implement a structured approach to obtain information relating to a patient’s condition directly from patients and their families at least daily. In the first instance, this will cover all inpatients in acute and specialist trusts.
- Development of the new Digital Child Health (DCH) record system, which will enable parents, carers and healthcare professionals to update and access information.
- National Lead Nurse Forum:
 - Launch of GIRFT Testicular Torsion Pathway (previously circulated)
 - Fasting Guidance
 - Abdominal Pain Pathway

Regional and ODN update:



2 - Regional update
(NW ER group).pptx

Joanna McBride gave an overview of current activity and waiting list data, taken from Radar (February 2024) for the North West Region, see slide above.

ODN Update



3 - ODN
Update.pptx

- Planned NHSE MMR campaign to commence in March - April 2024
- Service Development Monies – Funding is being provided for level 1 & 2 audit, life support wellbeing course and to supply C3 Hamilton ventilators (who did not receive 2022-2023).
- PPV – Public and patient voice recruitment for participation in the ODN oversight and working groups. Joanna McBride asked the group to display the poster in their clinical areas. Link to poster below:



PPV Poster - 02 11
2023.pdf

- Self-Assessments – The ODN will be carrying out self-assessments against the GIRFT standards. There will be visits arranged to meet teams at each site to help evaluate where each site is against the standards. More information will be shared once the rollout is planned.

- Regional Educators – The ODN have recruited 3 Band 6 Regional Educators, who will commence in post in the near future. There will be one educator for each locality (GM, C&M and L&SC).
- A Regional Nurses Working Group has recently commenced, led by Fran Campion, ODN Surgery in children Lead Nurse. The meetings will be held monthly.

Working Groups and Regional Guidelines



4 - Working Groups.pptx

Abdominal Pain Pathway

Helen Blakesley informed the meeting that the pathway was now ratified and complete and has been circulated to the region for use.

Preoperative preassessment Working Group

Fran Campion to provide update (agenda item 4)

Forearm Fracture Working Group

Work continuing, next meeting in planning.

Spinal Working Group

The ODN are working with the spinal networks looking at pathways for paediatrics.

Guidelines

NWTS Acute Abdomen Guideline

The NWTS Guideline for the Management of Suspected Acute Abdomen in 16 years and under was circulated for feedback. The guideline raised some concern, some DGH's due to the review of under 5's by surgeons. Su De and Ian Clegg (Co Clinical Leads for the ODN) will be supporting centres with this.

Guidelines for the Insertion of Paediatric Intraosseous Needle

The NWTS Insertion of Paediatric Intraosseous Needle Guideline has now been ratified.

Hirschsprungs Enterocolitis Pathway

Kathryn O'Shea, who is a surgeon at Royal Manchester Children's Hospital, has highlighted to the ODN the need for a hirschsprungs enterocolitis pathway: the ODN will be meeting with NWTS to progress.

The L3 Child Outside PICU (DGH), Upper Airway Obstruction and VTE Guidelines are all progressing towards ratification.

Networks

Club Foot Network

The second meeting is planned for March 2024, focusing on cross regional working and training. The network has linked with the NHSE Digital Staff Passports group to stay up to date with progression, not only for club foot healthcare professionals but also physiotherapists and plaster specialists. Helen Blakesley asked the group to make contact and inform the ODN of any other groups who may benefit from digital passports.




Specialist Surgery Network

The group continue to work collaboratively to review and discuss cases between the 2 tertiary centres in the region, Alder Hey Children' NHS Foundation Trust and Royal Manchester Children's Hospital.


Workplan



5 - Workplan Quarter 3.pptx

	<p>Joanna McBride shared the ODN 3rd quarter workplan, to give the group an overview of progress.</p>	
<p>4.</p>	<p>Pre-operative Assessment, Fran Campion, Lead Nurse, North West Surgery in Children ODN</p>  <p>North West Surgery in Children ODN - E</p> <p>Fran Campion gave a presentation informing the group of information and results gathered from the regional scoping exercise carried out by NHS England on pre-operative assessment in children in the North West. The exercise looked at what pre-operative services are available in the region and gathered stakeholders' opinions of pre-operative assessment. Fran informed the group of the key benefits of a good pre-operative assessment service for children, giving examples of National guidelines and detailing actions required to standardise pre-operative assessment services across the region. Anna Parry, NW PCC SiC LTV ODN Nurse Educator added that the first Paediatric Pre-operative Assessment Course will commence in May 2024, with a further intake in September 2024 (to register scan QR code on poster below). The course is being run in collaboration with the West Midlands ODN. Dr Amy Norrington will be one of the speakers on the course. Amy and her colleagues in South Tees NHS Trust (North East) who has published guidelines for developing multidisciplinary high quality and child centred pre-operative assessment, and they were one of the first Trusts to offer surgical pre-operative assessment to all children and young people undergoing planned surgery. The ODN plan to adopt Dr Amy Norrington's guidelines within the North West region.</p>  <p>PPV Poster - 02 11 2023.pdf</p>	<p>FC</p>
<p>5.</p>	<p>Closing the Gap – Survey Results</p>  <p>North West Surgery in Children Closing</p> <p>Joanna McBride informed the group that the 10 key actions taken from the GIRFT Closing the Gap document were shared to the region in a survey by the ODN. The survey was conducted to give the ODN a snapshot of services for comparison in the future.</p> <p>Fran Campion presented the results of the survey (see above). Donna Dodd signposted the FutureNHS Collaboration Platform for GIRFT, adding the following information and links to the meeting chat:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Further Faster Handbooks: specialty-based guidance providing regional data to enable benchmarking, plus best practice case studies, checklists, and links to associated resources. The specialty handbooks use a checklist approach to outline clear actions and practical advice for improvement in areas such as DNAs, PIFU and follow-up ratios. To access them, first join the GIRFT FutureNHS workspace; once accepted, handbooks can be found under 'specialty handbooks' > 'regional handbooks'. • Mini-modules: video excerpts from the pilot Further Faster specialty meetings, based on a particular topic. These capture presentations and discussions on areas including referral optimisation, the outpatient pathway, follow-up appointments and delivering 'super clinics'. • Clinically-led specialty meetings: regular specialty meetings held across the 18 specialties, led by GIRFT's clinical leads and implementation team, to enable innovation and good practice to be shared between colleagues. • Online discussion forums: enabling those engaged with the Further Faster programme to ask questions and share learning with others. 	<p>JM/FC</p>

	<p>Joanna McBride added that information is also available on PIFU (patient initiated follow up), on the FutureNHS platform; the ODN hope to start a PIFU working group soon. Rishi Diwan (Alder Hey) asked if there was support available from the ODN to assist Trusts to increase numbers on theatre lists as per the GIRFT document. Joanna McBride suggested the use of GIRFT resources, such as the theatre utilisation tools and planning tools. The group discussed the difficulties in increasing the number of patients on lists. Joanna McBride commented that the ODN can provide support with tools and advice to help achieve targets, however, cannot force Trusts to follow advice given or provide financial incentives.</p>	
<p>6.</p>	<p>NHSE Transformation Programme – Specialised Commissioning</p> <p>Phil Rigby reported that the formal engagement stage had now commenced, the first engagement event took place at St Helen’s 13th February 2024 and a virtual event 29th February 2024. The event was well attended by over 100 people, lots of information was shared and concerns and ideas were noted. A vital part of the stage is to gather patient and public opinion, the programme will be asking for support with this from Trusts. Further online sessions are being planned (no date confirmed yet). Phil informed the group that a microsite would also be launched soon to enable people to access information online and get involved, information will be shared as soon as available.</p> <p>Internally, there are several task and finish groups running, including a Workforce Group and Estates Group. There is also lots of work around data, with the development of several dashboards in progress. The main ask from the programme is that Trusts critique any wrong assumptions made about services and use the opportunity to have their say, to give a true reflection of services in the region.</p> <p>Joanna McBride added that during the engagement events conversations arose regarding emergency surgery for children in DGH’s and the age limits that adult colleagues are willing to see. Please feedback any comments.</p>	<p>PR</p>
<p>7.</p>	<p>Updates from Region - Activity, Recovery and Exception Reporting</p> <p>C&M</p> <p>Mersey & West Lancashire Teaching Hospitals</p> <p>Maysara Abdelaziz informed the group that there is a surgical group running in M&LC, who meet every quarter. The group consists of an anaesthetist, paediatrician, and surgeon, with others attending when availability allows. Currently the service covers age 5 and above ENT and urology. Clinics are running every 2 weeks, however there are plans to expand this. The service is quite a recent addition since the merge of St Helens and Knowsley TH and Southport & Ormskirk Hospital NHS Trust.</p> <p>Wirral University Teaching Hospital</p> <p>Annette Cooper reported that she is investigating the possibility of using one of the less used theatre spaces for a WIWO dental list. Patients would need to be admitted and discharged within the theatre area due to capacity on paediatric ward. Annette asked if there was any funding available from the ODN for staffing costs related to setting up a WIWO clinic. Joanna McBride confirmed that there was some funding from the service development fund which was shared with Trusts for audit purposes. Joanna advised that this could be used creatively and recommended Annette have some conversations internally to investigate. However, there was not any funding available directly from the ODN although happy to assist with business case if required.</p> <p>Mid Cheshire Hospitals (Leighton)</p> <p>Sharon Jackson informed the group that there is a dedicated paediatric list running at Leighton. The lists run twice a week; one is dental, the other is multi-speciality. There are some utilisation issues, particularly with the Friday list. There is also a possibility for weekend paediatric ENT lists, but not yet confirmed.</p> <p>Christian Longley introduced himself as it was his first time joining the oversight meeting, Christian is the new Anaesthetic Lead for Paediatrics.</p> <p>Stockport Warrington and Halton Teaching Hospital</p>	<p>All</p>

	<p>– Andrea Davies informed the group of the Warrington/Alder Hey partnership; Alder Hey will hold their first surgical list at Warrington on the 15th March 2024.</p> <p>Noble’s Hospital, IOM Neel Umapathy introduced himself as it was the first time he had joined the oversight meeting. Neel asked for advice from the group; until recently there have been no issues seeing children in surgery. In the last few months however, there have been some issues raised with seeing children under 16 as the newly appointed surgeon was an adult surgeon and is not contractually required to see any paediatric patients. This surgeon is also the lead for emergency surgery and there is potential conflict if surgeons will not see the child, as paediatricians will be called in. Neel added that he has written a draft policy, and asked if there was anyone who would be happy to look over the policy to see if it was reasonable. Joanna McBride commented that if Neel sent to the ODN, the policy could be shared for comments. Helen Blakesley, Network Manager, added that it would be beneficial also to share with Major Trauma in Children ODN and the C&M ODN. Rishi Dawan commented that the recently ratified Acute Abdominal Pain Guideline shared by the ODN may be a useful point of reference. Catherine Williams, Emergency Physician, commented that there had been some issues recently regarding processes and cut offs for tertiary referrals, with tertiary centres asking for a paediatric review of patient rather than the patient being directly referred from emergency medicine or local surgical team. Catherine asked if this is something the ODN were aware of. Joanna McBride commented that the ODN were not aware of any change, however, would happily investigate. Catherine added that some clarity of approach to enable consistency would be useful. Rachel Stoeter commented that recently anaesthetics were being asked to support neonatal intubation on the neonatal unit, possibly due to a slight change in training requirements from a neonatal side, indicating that competencies may have changed to no longer include neonatal intubation. Rachel asked if anyone had any knowledge of this within the group. Stephanie Bowler commented that the competencies has changed for general paediatricians, no longer including neonatal intubation, no other knowledge of changes was volunteered.</p> <p>GM No updates</p> <p>L&SC Lancashire Teaching Hospitals (Royal Preston Hospital) Tracy Denny asked for any information that is available on intracapsular tonsillectomies to be shared as there was some pressure to change to a 2 hour recovery at Preston.</p> <p>East Lancashire Hospital Trust (Royal Blackburn Hospital) Stephanie Bowler informed the group that there are issues with the dental list at Royal Blackburn, their lists are relatively productive, however this excludes the dental list. This is due to a lack of appropriate theatre slots, which is currently being reviewed to find a resolution.</p>	
<p>8.</p>	<p>Any other Business Patient and Public Voice Joanna McBride asked that all units display the PPV poster to help the ODN recruit volunteers to represent PPV on all ODN meetings.</p>  <p>PPV Poster - 02 11 2023.pdf</p> <p>ODN Website Joanna McBride highlighted the ODN website as a source of good information and updates. https://northwestchildrensodnhub.nhs.uk/</p>	
<p>9.</p>	<p>Actions</p>	

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. ODN will present data comparisons by speciality at the next meeting – action rolled over from December 2023. 2. ODN to collate any comments received regarding emergency surgery for children in DGH's and the age limits that adult colleagues to see / operate on. 	
10.	Date of Next Meeting 14 th June2024	

APPENDIX 1

Attendees

Network

Joanna McBride, Network Director, NW PCC SiC LTV ODN
Helen Blakesley, Network Manager, NW PCC SiC LTV MT ODN
Ian Clegg, Co Clinical Lead, NW Surgery in Children ODN
Fran Campion, Lead Nurse, NW Surgery in Children ODN
Anna Parry, Nurse Educator, NW PIC SIC & LTV ODN

Royal Manchester Children's Hospital NHS FT

Prof Stephen Playfor, Consultant Paediatric Intensivist, Royal Manchester Children's Hospital NHS FT

Alder Hey Children's NHS FT

Rishi Diwan, Consultant Paediatric Anaesthetist & Pain Lead (Acute) Alder Hey Children's NHS FT
Sarah Almond, Consultant Paediatric Surgeon, Alder Hey Children's NHS FT

Cheshire and Mersey

Andrea Davies, Deputy Ward Manager/Team Leader, Warrington & Halton Teaching Hospital
Sarah Jackson, Paediatric Nurse Consultant. Warrington & Halton Teaching Hospital
Neel Umapathy, ENT Surgeon/Lead for Children's Surgery, Noble's Hospital
Annette Cooper, Consultant Anaesthetist/Lead – Anaesthesia Wirral University NHS Foundation Trust
John McCabe, Divisional MD Paediatrics, Mid Cheshire Hospitals NHS FT
Eriola Mushi Surgeon, Mid Cheshire Hospitals NHS FT
Sharon Jackson, Deputy Ward Manager, Mid Cheshire Hospitals NHS FT
Trudi Riley, Mid Cheshire Hospitals NHS FT
Christian Longley, Lead for Paediatric Anaesthesia, Mid Cheshire Hospitals NHS FT
Alagar Chandra-Mohan, Surgical Paeds Lead, Glan Clwyd Hospital
Susan Thong, Interim Directorate Manager (Paediatrics), Mersey and West Lancs TH NHS Trust
Maysara Abdelaziz, Consultant Paediatrician/Clinical Director, Mersey and West Lancs TH NHS Trust

Lancs & South Cumbria

Tracy Denny, Ward Manager, Lancashire Teaching Hospitals (Preston)
Julie Fursman, Theatre manager, Lancashire Teaching Hospitals (Preston)
Stephanie Bowler, Consultant Anaesthetist/Lead - Paediatric Anaesthesia, East Lancs Hospitals NHS Trust
Leanne Ratcliffe, Children's Day Case Manager, East Lancs Hospitals NHS Trust
Kelly Fairclough, Performance Manager, East Lancs Hospitals NHS Trust

Greater Manchester

Sarah Ashworth - Paediatric Ambulatory Care Manager, Royal Oldham Hospital, NCA Trust
Ann Carey, Matron, Wrightington, Wigan & Leigh Trust - Royal Albert Edward
Catherine Williams, ED Clinician – Paediatric Lead, Royal Bolton NHS Trust
Rachel Stoeter, Consultant Anaesthetist, Stockport NHS FT

NHS England/Commissioning/Other

Donna Dodd, Implementation Manager (Cheshire and Merseyside), GIRFT, NHS England
Usman Darsot, System Improvement Manager, GIRFT, NHS England

Phil Rigby, Specialised Commissioning, NHSE

Kelly Taylor, Head of CYP Transformation Programme, NHS England – North West

Apologies:

Alfie Bass, Chief Medical Officer, Alder Hey Children's NHS FT

Cath Doherty, Co Clinical Lead, NW Surgery in Children ODN

Clare Peckham, Clinical Director for CYP, University Hospitals of Morecambe Bay NHS FT

Janice Fauset-Jones, Lead Nurse Long Term Ventilation, Operational Delivery Network

Joanne Connolly, Divisional Nursing Director, Lancashire Teaching Hospitals (Royal Preston Hospital)

Lucy Allton, Lead Nurse, NW PCC ODN