

# Welsh Health Specialised Services Commissioning NEWSLETTER

2<sup>nd</sup> Edition, Autumn 2022



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Pwyllgor Gwasanaethau  
Iechyd Arbenigol Cymru  
Welsh Health Specialised  
Services Committee



## South Wales Neonatal Units



This is the 2<sup>nd</sup> edition of the Quality newsletter from the Welsh Health Specialised Services team in Wales. Our plan is for these to be published on a quarterly basis to supplement reports and data already provided through different forums into Welsh Health Boards.

This gives an overview of some of the work we are involved with, and presents some of the highlights from a commissioning perspective. The services commissioned from Welsh Health Specialised Services Committee (WHSSC) are provided both in Wales and in England this will only provide a snapshot of our work.

**This Newsletter is available  
in Welsh on request.  
Mae'r Cylchlythyr hwn ar  
gael yn Gymraeg ar gais.**



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# Reporting for the Last Quarter

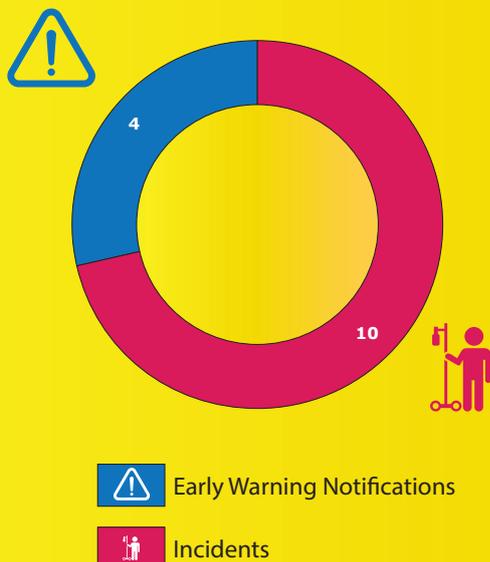
WHSSC do not investigate incidents but are responsible for supporting the investigations into these alongside the monitoring and reporting to the Health Boards. WHSSC are responsible for ensuring the delivery of safe services and ensure that trends or themes arising from concerns have actions plans which are are completed and support learning. WHSSC facilitates the continued monitoring of commissioned services and work with providers when issues arise.

## Type by Commissioning Team



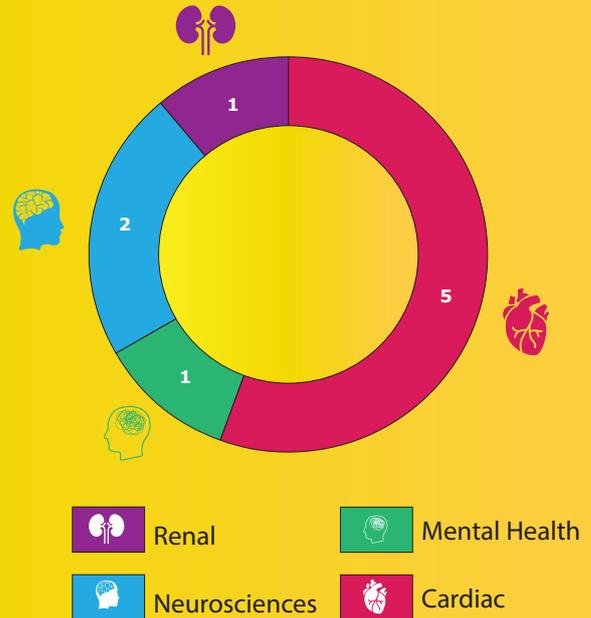
## Patient Safety Incidents and Early Warning Notifications

Between March to July 2022, there were **10** Patient Safety Incidents and **4** Early Warning Notifications logged:



## Patient Safety Incidents

Between March to July 2022, there were **9** Patient Safety Incidents closed:



Concerns raised with WHSSC may involve a direct response from the organisation or involve a joint response with the commissioning Health Board or WHSSC may need to ask the Health Board to respond directly.



Concerns



Incidents



Putting Things Right



Complaints



## Update from the Patient Care Team IPFR (Individual Patient Funding Request)

The Patient Care Team receives and manages individual patient funding requests for healthcare that falls outside of agreed range of services.

### An overview of IPFRs processed in Quarter 1 2022-23:

	Number of Requests discussed as Chairs Actions	Number of Requests discussed by All Wales IPFR Panel
April 2022	16	-
May 2022	7	14
June 2022	2	10

## Welsh Gender Service

The Welsh Gender Service published their first ever Newsletter in Spring 2022 and a Summer edition is to follow. For now though, please see the Spring edition here:



[Welsh Gender Service: Spring Edition Newsletter April 2022](#)



## April and June 2022 Patient Safety Updates



[Patient Safety Update: 5 April 2022](#)



[Patient Safety Update: 28 June 2022](#)



# Quality and Patient Safety Development Day

WHSSC will be holding a Quality and Patient Safety Development Day on 26th September 2022. Quality Clinical Colleagues and Independent member from across Welsh Health Boards will be in attendance. The day will feature data systems presentations from NHS England, the data team in WHSSC and presentations from the Delivery Unit team and NWSPP. A recap and feedback from the day will be provided in the next newsletter!



Patient Safety Incidents



Listening



Never Events



Reassurance



Reporting



Learning



Compliance



Quality



Culture



Assurance



Feedback



Experience



Improving



Developing



Innovation



# Ty Llidiard Co-production Event

Ty Llidiard have recently hosted a co-production event that involved young people, their carers and the staff based at Ty Llidiard. The event focused on the four C's: Compassionate, Calm, Confident and Caring.

The day was split into 3 sessions:-

- ✓ Former service users and their families along with external stakeholders.
- ✓ The young people who were admitted at the time.
- ✓ The Ty Llidiard staff.



Over 70 people attended on the day with another 50 giving feedback electronically and by using the feedback forms and box that was left in the Ty Llidiard foyer for 6 weeks after.

The main themes to come from the young people were reducing boredom through engagement and activities and from the staff it was around communication and support.

Through consultation with Staff and the Young People who use Ty Llidiard, Scarlett Design came up with 4 potential design proposals with examples of how we would like to use them to create an internal and external philosophy and identity.

Over 100 people voted on the visual identity / logo with nearly 70% voting on this design. The next steps are to use the agreed logo on uniforms, signage and on the exterior of Ty Llidiard. Positive feedback was received from the Director General of Health & Social Services/Chief Executive NHS Wales.





## North Wales Adolescent Unit

There are positive developments for Children & Young People (CYP) who are being treated for Eating Disorders (ED) within the service. Over time, there has been a recognition that, the needs of young people admitted to Kestrel ward with an eating disorder have changed. Historically, Kestrel ward had a high proportion of admissions associated with Anorexia Nervosa (AN).

Across North Wales, there has been an increase in young people presenting with complex presentations around eating who require intervention. This is in line with the referrals and presentations seen within the inpatient context.

Kestrel ward have historically followed a weight restoration model for eating disorders, there has been no formal review of the ED pathway completed within the last decade. The recognised change in presentation of CYP has driven the change of pathway from one of weight restoration to a

pathway with a stronger focus on Young People engagement. The inpatient ward is committed to developing an Autism friendly environment working alongside the National Autistic Society (NAS). The journey to accreditation with NAS has begun with the first meeting taking place in August 2022. Following a review of the environment, the NAS advisor was able to make suggestions as to what could be developed to ensure that the service could improve meeting the needs of CYP with a diagnoses of Autism Spectrum Disorder. The development of the environment is clinically led by the nursing team and operationally partnered by the broader MDT.

The service has welcomed a new role this year, the Patient Liaison Officer role was developed following a trend in concerns noted by CYP & families that recognised how communication between the service and families was not as effective as it could be.

The liaison officer has taken an active role in enhancing parts of the admission pathway including the information that is distributed to CYP & families pre admission, this includes the development of an North Wales Adolescent Service (NWAS) [specific website](#).

There is a strong emphasis on what the role is and how this can support the CYP & family journey. In addition, the liaison officer is also closely linked to the regional Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board (BCUHB) Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) patient experience leads who have developed an action plan for improved patient experience in practice.

The liaison officer supported the children's charter events held by the CAMHS BCUHB patient experience leads, building on the existing principles of CYP engagement and enhancing the focus of patient centred care.

The development of the Advanced Nurse Practitioner (ANP) pathway is now complete, the service currently has 4 ANP trainees with a 5th joining in December, all of which are in the final phase of their academic studies, during their training phase the trainees are undertaking advanced level nursing tasks under supervision to ensure that they are able to meet all 4 pillars of their advanced level training.

## Ty Llewellyn Medium Secure Unit

A meeting with the quality team in WHSSC took place with Ty Llewellyn Medium Secure Men's Adult Mental Health Unit in July 2022. An update was provided on the progression of the environmental, workforce and quality developments which have been underway to support a more therapeutic environment and clear recognition of physical health monitoring in mental health patients.

These have included the development of a more robust handover, physical health check monitoring, NEWS training and access to medical cover 24 hours 7 days a week and a policy to support individual therapeutic monitoring.

Staff sessions on physical health checks have included further training around sepsis management and the recognition and monitoring of side effects which may occur following the long term use of medications.

A culture of openness and transparency is continuously being encouraged and supported.

Outcome measure training is being facilitated for some of the staff and there are some further developments within the unit to capture patient experience, which will be shared once completed.



# Moondance Awards

The Moondance Cancer Awards 2022 held on June 16<sup>th</sup> to celebrate 'brilliant people across NHS Wales and its partners who maintained, and innovated, cancer services despite the extraordinary circumstances of the last two years'.

Among the lucky shortlist of delegates eagerly awaiting the results were colleagues from the All Wales Positron Emission Tomography (PET) Advisory Group who submitted an application to the 'Achievement: Working Together' category and All Wales Genomics Oncology Group (AWGOG), All Wales Medical Genomics Services (AWMGS) and Velindre Cancer Centre (VCC) who submitted a co-application to the 'Innovation in Treatment' category.

Presiding over judging of the innovation category were an esteemed panel of judges including UK Medical Director of the Telemedicine Clinic, Cancer Clinical Director for Wales Prof Tom Crosby, CEO of Tenovus Judi Rhys MBE and Prof. Neil Mortensen, President of the Royal College of Surgeons.

The judges were reportedly *"delighted and humbled by the number and quality of submissions received"*.



**WHSSC staff enjoying the Moondance Awards, from left to right:** Professor Iolo Doull, Dr Andrew Champion and Sarah McAllister. Dr Champion and Sarah McAllister were part of the shortlisted All Wales PET Advisory Group!

Upon declaring the winning result to the AWMGS/AWGOG/VCC application, the judges noted the formidable achievements of each of the following three initiatives commissioned via WHSSC:

1. The DPYD gene testing pilot in collaboration with VCC saw Wales become the first UK nation to routinely offer DPYD pharmacogenetic screening for cancer patients in receipt of certain types of chemotherapy
2. The All Wales Genetics Oncology Group (AWGOG) since its formation has published timely clinical guidance on NTRK gene and FGFR2 gene fusion diagnostic testing for cancer treatment following NICE recommendations
3. Cymru Service for Genomic Oncology Diagnosis (CYSGODI) launched in 2021 offer high-quality oncology precision medicine services using next generation sequencing technology to screen for targeted genes in a tumour and haematological malignancy.

A huge congratulations to The All Wales Genomics Oncology Group for winning the Innovation in Treatment Award and also to The All Wales PET Advisory Group for being shortlisted in the Working Together category!

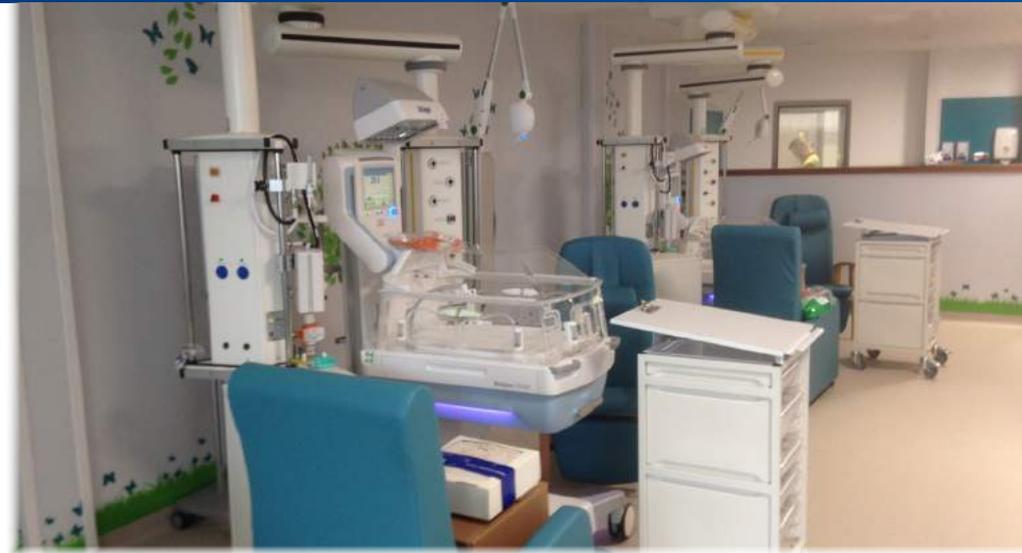


# South Wales Neonatal Units

The WHSSC Quality team are undertaking scheduled neonatal visits within South Wales. The face to face meetings are intended to strengthen relationships and to develop an understanding of the role of the quality team within commissioning. WHSSC are responsible for commissioning the ITU and HDU cots in South Wales.

This is alongside supporting the importance of reporting and data collection in light of publications such as the Independent Maternity Services Oversight Panel (IMSOP) and Ockenden report and an awareness that the services have had a great deal of activity and had a number of workforce pressures. During the visits, the units have been encouraged to share evidence of Quality Improvement, good practice alongside areas of concern including workforce plans and recruitment.

Discussions have also included capturing patient experience and signposting to the Health Board team to support facilitation of this.



During the visits there was evidence of inspiring innovations to benefit patients, families and the staff and we have asked that this be continuously shared with WHSSC.

Alongside some workforce initiatives to utilise some of the current vacancies more successfully into advanced practice role development and Band 4 role development. To date the team have visited Hywel Dda University Health Board (HDUHB), Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board (CTMUHB), Swansea Bay University Health Board (SBUHB) and Cardiff and Vale University Health Board (CVUHB).



## HDUHB

HDUHB provided the WHSSC Quality team with the opportunity to visit the new unit and to meet with the neonatal team. It was evident moving into a better environment and managing the care of neonates within the new facility had a positive impact on the team.

## CTMUHB

Very positive visit to the team in CTMUHB, it provided the opportunity to understand how the team have worked to address the issues identified by Independent Maternity Safety and Oversight Panel. There was evidence of practice development and support for the clinical team alongside the rotation of staff into different clinical areas and support to work with the regional Centres.

## SBUHB

The Team have recently had nurses join them from overseas and are in the process of supporting their development with specific clinical programs. These have included the development of Objective Structured Clinical Examinations to enable a smooth transition into the workforce and to meet the NMC requirements. During the visit alongside meeting the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) team the Quality team met with the midwifery team who demonstrated the work which had been undertaken with a Neonatologist and maternity to enable the Transitional care model to be better utilised to support a model of more rapid step down from Special Care Baby Unit (SCBU).

## CVUHB

The NICU visit provided the Quality team with an opportunity to understand how the Operational Team are continuously addressing the daily priorities of managing the ever changing clinical picture. This was demonstrated through their facilitation of a twice daily huddle and their reporting to the Clinical Board. The clinical team welcomed an opportunity to share their concerns regarding workforce, repatriation and training issues.

These included the difficulties of sometimes having families who had become dependent on the regional Centres and their concerns about being repatriated back to their local health boards, due to a perceived lack of understanding on how their particular specialist needs would be met. This concern was highlighted from both a family perspective and the clinical teams perspective. The clinical team raised concern around local skill and knowledge in relation to managing some of the more complex surgical cases.

There had been recent recruitment event with some success at external recruitment. A number of nursing vacancies exist within the team and there is a plan to support student streamlining with over recruitment into some of these vacancies.



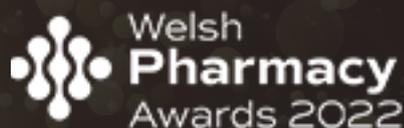
## Maternity and Neonatal Safety Summit

Sue Tranka, Chief Nursing Officer for Wales has launched the Maternity and Neonatal Safety Support Programme to improve safety, experience and outcomes for mothers and babies in Wales. Maternity and neonatal champions will be appointed to every health board in Wales to improve the quality of services and to support the Maternity Five Year Vision.

The Programme aims to create national standards to ensure that all pregnant individuals, babies and their families will experience safe, high quality health care along with influencing their decisions regarding the care they receive.

The Maternity and Neonatal Safety Summit was held in August 2022 and was well attended both in person and remotely. There was engagement from the participants, who were encouraged to submit online questions to the presenting panel. This identified collaborative themes amongst the audience and facilitated an opportunity to network in person.

## Welsh Pharmacy Awards 2022



The Blueteq High Cost Drugs (HCD) software programme was procured for NHS Wales by the WHSSC and the Welsh Government via the Advanced Therapies Wales Board, to support the implementation of Advanced Therapy Medicinal Products (ATMPs) and other HCDs commissioned by WHSSC. A Blueteq Project Working Group piloted the system in May 2021. In January 2022, the system went live for all WHSSC commissioned HCDs.

This new system allows NHS Wales to audit the initiation of complex HCDs in line with evidence based health technology appraisal recommendations, to support clinical data collection and evaluation and to strengthen financial governance.

A Blueteq form is created for all WHSSC commissioned National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) Technology Appraisals, Highly Specialised Technologies and All Wales Medicines Strategy Group approved medicines by the WHSSC Medical team in collaboration with Welsh clinical experts.

The implementation of Blueteq ensures equitable and timely access to specialised HCDs for eligible patients across Wales. The Blueteq project has been shortlisted as a finalist in the Welsh Pharmacy Awards 2022, which is a fantastic achievement.

**Well done team!**



# FINALIST

THE VALE RESORT,  
GLAMORGAN  
WEDNESDAY 7TH  
SEPTEMBER 2022

DRINKS RECEPTION  
6.30PM

AWARDS BEGIN  
7.30PM

# Quick Round up of Commissioning Teams



## Mental Health

5 year strategy being developed and well underway with excellent engagement and support from the Welsh Clinical Teams.



## Women and Children's

Paediatric Strategy is gaining momentum and out for consultation.



## Neurosciences and long term condition

All Wales strategy to improve outcomes and experience of patients receiving specialised rehabilitation is underway.



## Cancer and Blood

Thoracic and Inherited Bleeding Disorder Service Improvement and Innovation Day to be organised. ENETS won a Patient Experience award and will be hosting a celebration event on 13<sup>th</sup> October.



## Cardiac

Cystic Fibrosis Service Improvement and Innovation Day scheduled for 11th November 2022.



## Intestinal Failure

Ongoing work being undertaken with the recently formed Intestinal Failure commissioning team and as a result of the Intestinal Failure review and Service Improvement and Innovation Day.

## Recognition of significant events, thank you's and useful links

Adele Roberts, Head of Quality at WHSSC, receives a special parcel from a patient who was supported through the NHS England Gender pathway:



### Lieutenant Colonel

On behalf of the whole military in Wales I am very grateful for the enhance patient care the systems providers and for the friendly, flexible and efficient way it is administered by you and Catherine. Patients enjoy fantastic care from the providers in Wales. The options for select-ed individuals to be seen quickly in order to make them fit for duty and progress their care is transformational.....This support to the military in Wales is envied by my colleagues in other parts of the UK



### Ministry of Defence (MOD)

A thank you from a Lieutenant Colonel with the MOD was received into WHSSC by the Director of Finance Stuart Davies and Catherine Dew IPFR manager.

### Useful Links

- [Welsh Health Specialised Services Committee](#)

### Public Health Wales - 30 month implementation evaluation for NIPT (Non-invasive Prenatal Testing) evaluation

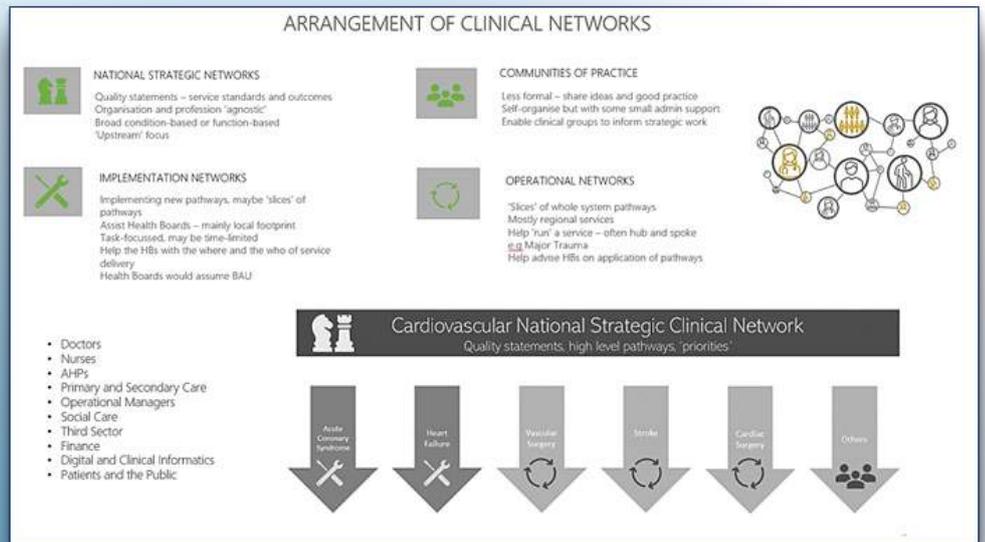
WHSSC commission NIPT and were informed by Public Health Wales of the evaluation findings from the first 30 months following the implementation of this as a contingent test as part of the antenatal Screening programme in Wales were formally published in the May edition of Prenatal Diagnosis, a peer reviewed journal.

**[Implementation of non-invasive prenatal testing within a national UK antenatal screening programme: Impact on women's choices - Bowden - 2022 - Prenatal Diagnosis - Wiley Online Library](#)**



# Clinical Network Programme

As part of the strategy work WHSSC has been working closely with the Clinical Network Programme and whilst the names and arrangements of networks in the diagram below are still under discussion we felt it would be helpful to share as part of the stakeholder engagement that has been undertaken over the past year. The Clinical Networks Programme is part of the National Clinical Framework implementation within the NHS Executive.



## NETS

South Wales Neuroendocrine Cancer Service has received a Centre of Excellence Accreditation with ENETS (European Neuroendocrine Tumour Society) – a massive congratulations to Dr Mohid Khan:



DR Mohid Khan, Cardiff and Vale University Health Board

*A well-done from Dr Sian Lewis, Managing Director for WHSSC the neurosciences commissioning team received substantial assurance form the Audit and Assurance team and to the pharmacy team Eleri Schiavone, Dr Andy Champion and Professor Iolo Doull on reaching the pharmacy finalist awards.*

*"Well done team we are proud of you!"*



**ENETS Audit Checklist/ Report Cardiff**



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**Autumn 2022**

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