

Briefing notes for Portsmouth HOSP – 17 October 2013

Vascular Services

The Trust has submitted its self-assessment against the national specification for vascular services and the Wessex Area Team is currently working through the detail of this with the Trust.

To inform the process and in particular to discuss some definitions within the core standards of the specification the Trust attended the Wessex Clinical Senate at the end of September 2013. The Clinical Senate brings together relevant clinical experts, reviews evidence and provides advice to ensure the best outcomes for patients can be achieved. On this occasion the national clinical lead for cardiovascular services attended the Wessex Clinical Senate. Formal feedback from the Clinical Senate will be published within the coming weeks.

It is anticipated that a period of commissioner “derogation” will be agreed to enable providers to meet in full the standards within the national specification which would include a network model of delivery and at least 6 vascular surgeons working within each arterial centre.

In order to ensure that a wide range of partners are briefed on the process to assess services against the national specification, a special briefing was arranged on 20 September 2013 with an invitation to all HOSCs to attend.

Following the assessment against the national specification, during November 2013 the Wessex Area Team expects to clarify the proposed steps providers will need to take to meet the national specification. This will then enable the HOSCs to work together to scrutinise the proposals.

Urgent Care

Portsmouth Hospitals has failed the A&E 4 Hour waiting time measure for 2013/14 up until recent weeks.

Performance is improving during October and is a whisker away from the 95% standard for this month.

Trust Development Authority (regulator of trusts not yet achieved foundation status) requires PHT to improve on their performance by end October.

All partners and stakeholders including social care meet as part of unscheduled care group to work on system transformation to improve USC.

Portsmouth, SE Hants and Fareham and Gosport CCGs have commissioned a “front door” service to put in place at PHT to identify and serve patients who present at A&E but would be more appropriately cared for in primary care.

The system submitted a successful bid for winter pressures non-recurrent funding and is to receive £ 1.427m to pump prime this and other initiatives agreed by the Unscheduled Care group.

An overall Surge and Escalation Plan has been submitted across the system, this requires more work and Area Team is meeting with CCG to support its development to be better placed to face winter pressures.

- Plus change to Meningitis C booster: to be given to teenagers instead of 5 year olds, as part of a schools based programme

Screening – bowel scope to be rolled out by 2016: a one off screen for 55 year olds as part of the bowel screening programme – looks inside lower bowel to look for polyps which may develop into bowel cancer if left untreated.

No specific issues for Portsmouth