

Quarterly Update from National Services Division



FEBRUARY
2020

Part 1

National Specialist Services Committee

Update on current service developments/changes under consideration by NSSC

1.1 New Designations

National Cellular Therapy Service

This application was considered in 2018 and approved in principle subject to SMC approval of the relevant medicines. Following SMC recommendation earlier this year, final approval was given by Board Chief Executives and Scottish Government to commence this new service in NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde from November 2019.

National Scottish Paediatric & Young People Craniofacial Surgery Service

The proposal for paediatric craniofacial surgery has been approved for national designation. Hosted by NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde, the service will enhance provision of an established pathway and offer specialist multidisciplinary diagnosis, surgery and ongoing care for all syndromic and non-syndromic cases across Scotland. Delivered from Queen Elizabeth University Hospital, the craniofacial surgery service will treat all patients with congenital craniofacial conditions for example: Craniosynostosis, Crouzon's and Carpenter's syndrome. This was approved by Board Chief Executives and Scottish Government.

Adult Respiratory ECMO

An application by NHS Grampian to host and deliver the Adult Respiratory (ECMO) service has been approved for national designation. The service will provide for patients in Scotland in line with the NHS England specification for adult respiratory ECMO. It aims to enhance access to delivery and management of ECMO patients in Scotland from a dedicated centre. Participation in the UK network will continue to facilitate the comparison and benchmarking of activity and outcomes. This was approved by Board Chief Executives and Scottish Government.

CAMHS In-Patient Care Service for Young People with learning disability

A proposal in support of Scotland's first CAMHS In-Patient Care service for young people (aged 12 – 18) with a moderate to profound learning disability and a co-morbid mental health disorder has been recommended for approval. The bespoke inpatient unit based at the Royal Edinburgh Hospital will offer a flexible four bed facility for young people who require a period of hospital-based assessment and intervention. Approved in principle by NSSC, funding will be considered for prioritisation next year for the 2020/21 Annual Business Case.

National Burns Hub

NSSC approved the designation of a National Burns Hub in principle. However, given the size of investment required and the potential impact on existing Burns Facilities, NSSC recommended that this development is revisited by the National Planning Team, in conjunction with the [COBIS network](#), to ensure a coherent plan for all of NHS Scotland.

1.2 New developments

NSSC reviewed the major development bids that would require additional funding, and recommended their priority for funding in 2020/21.

Paediatric Cardiac Surgery and Intensive Care (PICU)

Hosted by NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde, the service requested funding for an additional cot/bed to increase the provision of emergency care for paediatrics at the Royal Hospital for Children. The extra bed is expected to provide flexibility in the delivery of all specialist services over the winter, for example paediatric respiratory ECMO, and aid the paediatric renal transplant service in undertaking transplants. It is also expected to facilitate a reduction in the number and length of patients waiting for cardiac surgery and reduce cancellation rates. This was approved by Board Chief Executives.

Myeloid NGS Gene Panel

Current genetic screening tests only identify genetic abnormalities for around 50% of patients with acute myeloid leukaemia (AML). Next Generation Sequencing (NGS) is evolving quickly and offers a solution to this problem. Testing is required for the classification of myeloid neoplasms and acute leukaemia under WHO guidelines, informing the appropriate stratification of patient care and ensuring diagnostic accuracy. NSSC recommended an additional top slice for this service given the potential saving for other parts of the NHS system. This was approved by Board Chief Executives.

Adult Cystic Fibrosis

The ACF Service has recently undergone a major review by an independent review group. The group recommended investment in the current services given evidence demonstrated that staff had been working over capacity whilst maintaining high standards.

Genetic Testing for Colorectal Cancer

Guidance highlighted the need for systematic testing for Lynch Syndrome (LS), the most common form of predisposition to cancer in the general population and in whom there is a high risk of developing cancers during their lifetime, and a predisposition to developing bowel cancer and at a much younger age. Familial testing to identify whether a patient's relatives are affected by LS would allow early identification for the implementation of preventive measures. Systematic testing through an expanded CRC pathway was recommended to improve the early diagnosis and treatment for those at high risk of cancer.

Specialist Psychology Support

The added value of psychological interventions for people with rare disease is recognised by NSSC and NSD currently funds psychology posts within 28% of national designated services. However, it was acknowledged from professional and patient feedback that there was not equitable access to specialist psychology care across all national designations and a number of priority areas have been identified for funding. A short life working group agreed a model and priorities for investment.

NICE Cochlear Implantation Guidance

NICE recently made recommendations about the clinical definitions of 'severe' and 'profound' deafness as well as current measures of the benefit associated with hearing aids and cochlear implants. If accepted into clinical practice in Scotland it will increase the number of patients eligible to receive a cochlear implant and will still require additional resources to implement.

These cases were considered and supported in principle by NSSC and Board Chief Executives. However, given other major commitments in the Annual Business Plan, it was recognised that there is insufficient funding available for implementation at the moment. NSD was requested to seek and review potential additional efficiencies and review in 6 months. It was recommended that these cases be considered for prioritisation next year in time for the 2021/22 Annual Business Case.

1.3 Proposals under consideration

Stage Two

Mitral Valve Leaflet Repair and Left Atrial Appendage Occlusion

Rising trends in the use of percutaneous interventions by cardiologists to treat patients with symptoms of cardiac failure or those at risk of suffering a life-threatening stroke, supported a need for commissioned services in Scotland. Both services were subject to a review by the Scottish Health Technologies Group, which reported that both procedures demonstrated cost and clinical effectiveness. NSSC has sought applications to host these services.

Stage One

National Viral Genotyping Service

Viral genotyping of Influenza virus, Hepatitis A, E and Enteroviruses use well established techniques. The proposal for a National Viral Genotyping Service to support public health control strategies around the prevention or management of viral outbreak situations, was approved to progress to Stage Two application. A single service provided across two existing Blood Borne Virus Specialist Testing Laboratories in Edinburgh and Glasgow, would offer a consistent provision of information on what viral strains are circulating in the community outwith outbreaks, and include viruses currently not tested, such as Influenza and Enterovirus.

1.4 Horizon Scanning

A range of proposals have been highlighted to NSD for possible national designation. These will be presented to NSSC for further detailed consideration if they gain appropriate support.

- **Mortuary Standards Network** - discussions ongoing around consideration to progress through [SPAN Network](#).
- **National Paediatric GI Motility Service** - NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde and NSD
- **Thyroid Cancer Network** - NHS Lothian
- **Amyloidosis Service/Network** - NSD working with National Amyloidosis Centre, London, clinicians in Scotland and NHS England to explore options for future.
- **Scleroderma Network** - NHS Greater Glasgow & Clyde and Golden Jubilee Foundation Hospital.
- **Lymphoedema/Lymphoedema surgery** - NHS Tayside –seeking advice from SHTG
- **Infectious Disease Network** - Work ongoing
- **Paroxysmal Nocturnal Haematuria** – NHS Lanarkshire, work ongoing
- **Paediatric Radiotherapy** – NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde with support from the MSN for paediatric cancers.
- **Specialist Mesh Disorders surgical service** (April 2019) – Scottish Government and NHS Greater Glasgow & Clyde. Ongoing work with stakeholders and clinicians as well as SG Accountable Officers Group with view to commissioning proposal (Stage 2).
- **Facial Reanimation Service** - NHS Greater Glasgow & Clyde, work ongoing
- **National Plasma Products Expert Advisory Group (NPPEAG)** - potential development to a network.
- **Gender Reassignment Centre** – NHS Tayside, work ongoing
- **Abdominal Sarcoma Surgery** - NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde and NHS Lothian
- **Lung Transplant** - Golden Jubilee, awaiting re-submission
- **Home/Long term Ventilation Network** - National Advisory Group for Respiratory Disorder, work ongoing

1.5 National Service and Network Reviews

All NSD services and Networks are reviewed on a three to five yearly cycle. At the December 2019 meeting, NSSC endorsed and supported recommendations for the following services:

Scottish Advanced Heart Failure Service - major review

Provided by the Golden Jubilee National Hospital, the Scottish Advanced Heart Failure Service (SNAHFS) continues to meet the criteria required to be a nationally designated service. This was the conclusion of a major review, which also approved the continued commissioning of the service by National Services Division. A number of recommendations were identified including the need for ongoing stakeholder engagement with referring boards to ensure continuation of timely, equitable and clinically appropriate referrals and the development of standardised protocols for ongoing community care.

Extra Corporeal Life Support (Paediatric) - minor review

The service, hosted by NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde provides Extracorporeal Life Support (ECLS) for a small cohort of neonates and children with potentially reversible respiratory and/or cardiac failure. The minor review concluded that the service is safe, effective and equitable and continues to meet the criteria for national designation, with a recommendation that further consideration be given to the evolving position regarding the paediatric health failure patient pathway.

Surgical Congenital Anomalies Network for Scotland (SCANS) - update

The committee reviewed the report on the implementation of review recommendations and agreed that SCANS had demonstrated significant progress in delivering the recommendations, and the value of its work, delivering improvements for babies and their families affected by the congenital conditions under the banner of the Network. The committee endorsed ongoing designation for the network.

MSN for Neurosurgery- update

The Managed Service Network (MSN) for Neurosurgery is responsible for oversight of the four adult neurosurgery centres (and two specialist paediatric neurosurgery centres), working with them to provide a single co-ordinated approach to the delivery of neurosurgery in Scotland. A report submitted to the Committee to demonstrate the effectiveness of the recommended governance and reporting arrangements agreed in the 2017, confirmed that all recommendations were now complete. The MSN Board confirmed plans to report to the National Planning Board while maintaining a link to the Chief Medical Officer.

Advanced Interventions - update

Hosted by NHS Tayside, the Advanced Interventions Service (AIS) offers specialist assessment for people with refractory depression and complex obsessive compulsive disorder. A minor review in 2017 sought assurance that equity of access to the service was improved. Referral trends remain largely unchanged therefore recommendation was made that NSD and Scottish Government Mental Health policy undertake an overview of AIS to consider strategic direction and future commissioning plans.

Therapeutic Drug Monitoring - update

Hosted by NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde's Biochemistry laboratory, this service received national designation in 2017 as a pilot for two years. Originating from the 'Effective Prescribing Programme', the 'once-for-Scotland' Biological Medicines Therapeutic Monitoring Service has effectively enhanced clinical decision making and supported the optimisation of treatment choice and dosing for patients in Scotland. In addition, it reduces harm through the reduction of unnecessary treatments, as well as generating savings. The committee endorsed the continued designation of the service.

Scottish Cervical Training School and Cervical Cytology EQA Scheme

The Scottish Screening Committee, following endorsement by the National Specialist Services Committee, also endorsed the recommendations that, post hr-HPV implementation, the Scottish Cervical Training School be established in NHS GG&C and NHS Scotland to participate in the English EQA Scheme.

1.6 New Service Implementation

The following services have been designated as National Specialist Services. Start dates are expected as follows:

- **Scottish Molecular Radiotherapy Treatment Centre (SMaRT)** hosted by NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde—April 2020
- **Secure Care Adolescent Mental Health inpatient service** - Summer 2021

NSD are launching a number of new and/or refreshed national networks over spring 2020:

- **Scottish Peri-natal Network** – incorporating the Neonatal and Maternity networks
- **Health in Justice Network** – incorporating Health in Custody – Police Care and in Prisons
- **Scottish Veterans Healthcare Network**
- **Scottish Fertility Network**

Part 2

National Screening programmes

Bowel

The next KPI publication on the Scottish Bowel Screening Programme will be available in February. Results in August showed an eight percent increase in uptake of the FIT test by the public: greatest in men, those who had never previously participated and in the most deprived areas, demonstrating that the new test is more accepted by hard to reach groups. With a significant rise in positive results requiring colonoscopy investigation, managing the increase in demand for this service is under consideration as part of the Endoscopy Action Plan. Early indication is that FIT is a better predictor of finding pre-cancerous growths (adenomas) during colonoscopy.

Breast

Performance data for the Scottish Breast Screening Programme was published on 8 October 2019 and can be found [here](#). The next publication will be available April 2020. An increase to invasive cancer detection rates was highlighted with just over half of the invasive cancers detected in women of all ages in 2017/18, being less than 15mm in size which are unlikely to be detected by physical examination. Attendance continues to show a downward trend with women from more deprived areas less likely to attend screening.

The workstreams for the review of the Scottish Breast Screening Programme have been established with stakeholders and workshops have been held to review the invitation process and technology workstream. The Breast Review meets again in May 2020.

Cervical

Plans to include HPV primary testing as part of the Scottish Cervical Screening Programme by the end of March 2020 are progressing well with the IT development, required for the development, now fully tested and signed off. All laboratories continue to meet the 14-day turnaround time standard.

Diabetic Retinopathy Screening (DRS)

No new updates.

Pregnancy & Newborn

Implementation of Non-invasive Pre-Natal Testing (NIPT) and the inclusion of Edwards syndrome (T18) and Patau syndrome (T13) is scheduled for completion in summer 2020.

Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm (AAA)

No new updates.

Part 3

NHSS National Planning Board

The NHSS National Planning Board has now been working since October 2018, meeting quarterly. The next meeting is 21 February 2020. Our current programme of work:

Commissioned Horizon Scans:

Horizon scans explore changes foreseeable for the next 5-10 years that require planning, and to direct to the right level of local, regional or national planning. The outcomes of these horizon scans and the planning work that the Board recommends will be updated in the May 2020 NSD quarterly update.

Cancer: The horizon scan scoping phase has completed and the full write up is being presented to the national planning board on 21 February

Heart Disease - The horizon scan scoping phase has completed and the full write up was tabled at the November virtual board, and will have some of the larger recommendations discussed in more detail at the February board.

Stroke - The horizon scan scoping phase has completed and the full write up is being presented to the national planning board on 21st February.

Diagnostic Radiology - The Scottish Radiology Transformation Programme (SRTP) has been undertaking the horizon scanning for diagnostic radiology. The phase two business case for the SRTP was approved by Board Chief Executives in Dec 2019. An update on next steps will be presented to the Board in Feb 2020.

Reviews:

Explore areas of current practice and/or models of delivery to improve future delivery, or to assist in areas of challenge, for example workforce shortages and unwarranted variation.

Robotic Assisted Surgery (RAS)- A review group looked at the present availability, usage, population need, workforce impact, patient preferences, evidence base, cost effectiveness and future scope of RAS. A draft national strategic framework for RAS is being drafted to present to the February board. It is expected that an oversight group will be formed with a supporting clinical reference group. NHS Boards and Regions will then work within the parameters of the framework, to assist Scotland move to away from the level of open surgery currently to a more minimally invasive surgery future.

Interventional Radiology (IR) - A new phase of IR planning for Scotland has now started. A National Planning Interventional Radiology Steering Group has been formed to co-ordinate the national actions required to ensure a stable IR service for Scotland, and to support regional and inter-regional working for future regional IR service models. The national group met for the first time in October 2019 and will co-ordinate the development of IR standards and workforce development.

Service Planning:

Areas of planning on a once for Scotland national level.

TAVI - An Outcome and Data group have agreed the data collection and analysis required to continue to monitor improvements and outcomes relating to TAVI via the three cardiac centres. ISD are exploring the additional resources this will require.

Thrombectomy - The Thrombectomy Advisory Group (TAG) continues to work on project planning to build a service for Scotland with a provisional aim to introduce thrombectomy in the latter part of 2020. The proposed model is three specialist centres providing thrombectomy – RIE, Ninewells and QEUH. Non recurring funds in 2019/20 have been allocated to help prime parts of the system and a full recurring business case will be tabled for consideration to the National Planning Board on the 21st February 2020

Women's Forensic Mental Health- The National Planning Team is contributing to a short life planning group which will agree pathways for women's low to medium forensic mental health. To meet these needs effectively, services should define clear pathways for low secure provision, with clear rehabilitation pathways and outlined step-down to the community. The SLPG commenced in Oct 2019.

Services to be considered by National Planning in February 2020

A refreshed review of **Burns Services** including the current proposal for a specialist Burns Hub and the impact on local Burns Facilities

Review a range of recommendations from the **HepatoPancreatoBiliary** Cancer Network

Proposals to establish a national plan for the NHS in Scotland for **Precision Medicine and Genomics**

Governance for potential future roll out of **SCOTCAP** (Colon Capsule Endoscopy)

Scottish Health Technology Group (SHTG) advice on **Patent Foramen Ovale Surgery (PFO)**.

For more information or if you would like to contact us on any of the items in this Update, please contact us at: NSS.nsd-enquiries@nhs.net