

Children's Hospitals Network



Newsletter *April 2016*

issue 1

Introduction

The **Children's Hospitals Network (CHN)** was established between **Oxford and Southampton Trusts in 2012**. Last year the CHN was nominated to host Operational Delivery Networks (ODNs) for paediatric Cardiac, Critical Care and Neurosciences (see below). Hosting the ODNs will provide the opportunity for us to work better and more inclusively with over 20 District General Hospitals, providing care for children, across Thames Valley and Wessex. It's a challenge to communicate the right level of information to all of our stakeholders, hence this is the first newsletter that incorporates what is happening in the CHN and related ODNs. We hope that you find this useful and are keen to hear your views. Please do get in touch and provide us with some feedback on what you would like to see in future editions of this newsletter or how you would like to be more involved.

You can contact us on oschn@ouh.nhs.uk or check out our website for more details www.oschn.nhs.uk

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The first Network of its kind...

Improving Communication



Alison Sims
Associate Director
Children's Hospitals
Network

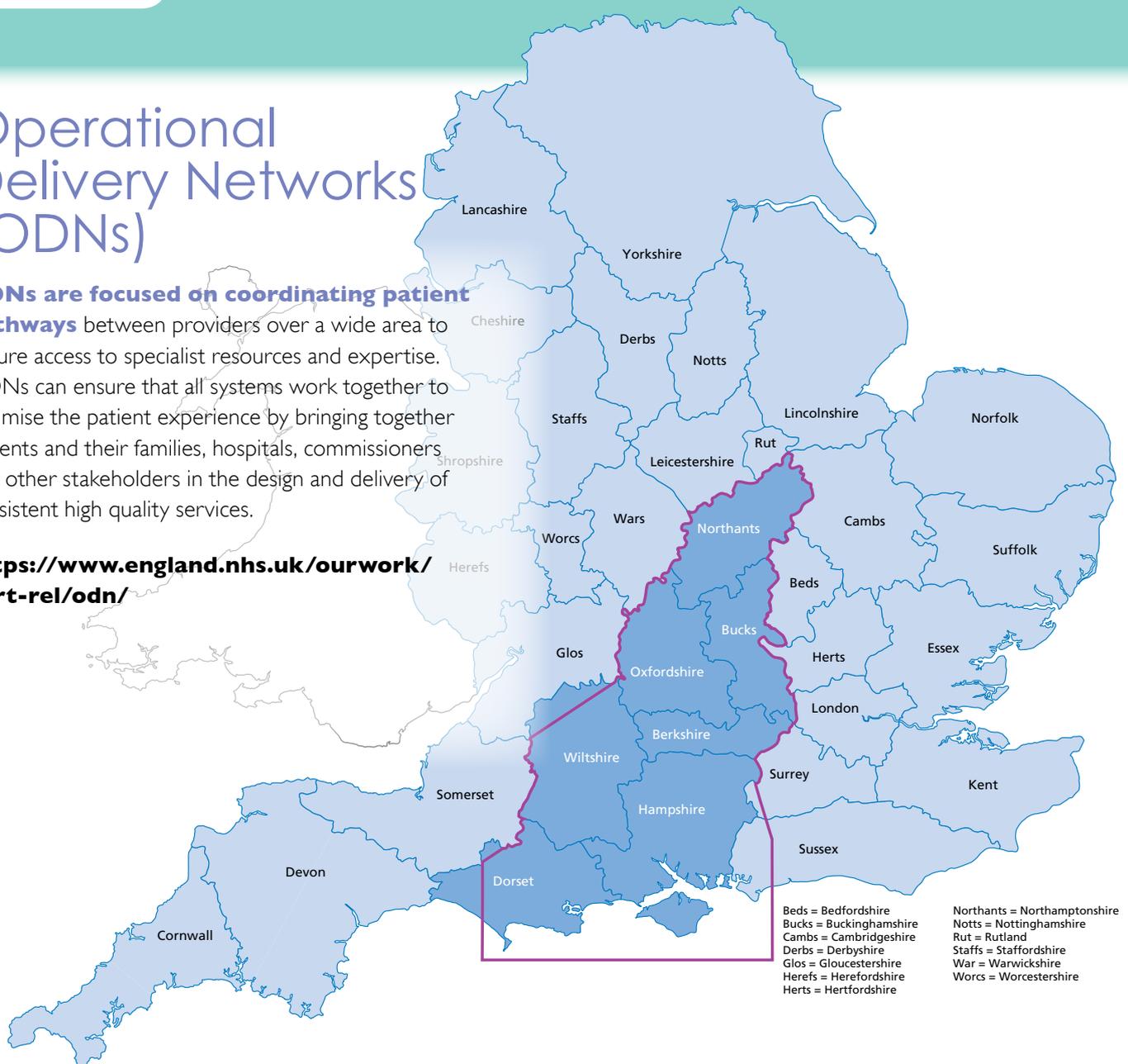
“It’s been over 3 years since the implementation of the CHN between Oxford and Southampton Trusts.

We are now in a new stage of development with ODNs being implemented and further services joining the Network, so I hope that this Newsletter provides you with a snapshot of current developments and future aspirations”.

Operational Delivery Networks (ODNs)

ODNs are focused on coordinating patient pathways between providers over a wide area to ensure access to specialist resources and expertise. ODNs can ensure that all systems work together to optimise the patient experience by bringing together patients and their families, hospitals, commissioners and other stakeholders in the design and delivery of consistent high quality services.

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/ourwork/part-rel/odn/>



Children's Neurosciences Network (ODN)



Heather Deeley
(ODN) Manager
Neurosciences
Thames Valley & Wessex

Heather Deeley joined us in November 2015 as Network Manager and is concentrating on implementing the ODN for Neurosciences across the Thames Valley & Wessex regions. Heather has a background in marketing and communications and has been working in acute settings within the NHS for the past 8 years. She is working in conjunction with **Aabir Chakraborty**, who joined the ODN as Clinical Lead in January 2016. Aabir is a Paediatric Neurosurgeon based at Southampton Children's Hospital.

The ODN is complimentary to the already well-established clinical forums for the neuroscience specialties in Thames Valley and Wessex, ably led by Tony McShane and Colin Kennedy respectively. These forums have already delivered some excellent initiatives including standardisation of guidelines, improved access to tertiary clinicians and discussion of complex cases to improve regional knowledge.

The ODN team is initially concentrating on the following priorities:

Clinical Consultation – January 2016

A questionnaire was sent out to health professionals across both regions to gain understanding of where there are areas that could be improved for the care of the neurological child. 36 responses were received and the outcomes from the consultation are being used to develop the ODN priorities for 2016/17.

1st Thames Valley and Wessex Paediatric Neurosciences Clinical Day – 3rd May 2016

This multi-professional clinical day will bring health professionals from across the region together to share best practice and develop network projects, with a focus on using patient and family experiences to improve care pathways.

Regional Project secondment – Paediatric MRI

Funds have been identified to audit the provision of and access to Paediatric MRI across the regions and develop service improvement initiatives where appropriate. Interviews will be held in late March and we hope to have an update on this project in the next newsletter.

Paediatric Neurosciences Data

Alongside our colleagues in the South West region, we are working to improve the quality of clinical data for paediatric neurosciences that will help to inform evidence based decision making.



Aabir Chakraborty
Clinical Lead
Neurosciences (ODN)
Thames Valley & Wessex

Children's Cardiac Network (ODN)



Alison Sims
Interim Cardiac
Network Manager

Since 2010 the teams at Oxford and Southampton have been working as a regional Network. **James Gnanapragasam** has been Clinical Lead during this time and has been integral in navigating the teams through the complex and lengthy National Congenital Heart Review, which has been taking place for a number of years. We would like to thank James for all his hard work as he will be stepping down from this role although will continue as part of the team based at Southampton. We are currently recruiting a Clinical Lead to develop the Network as an Operational Delivery Network (ODN). Interviews will take place in May.



James Gnanapragasam
CHN Clinical Lead

CARDIAC IMAGING – we are currently launching an IT project that will improve the sharing and quality of images across the Network. **Mike Ives**, IT manager, UHS will be leading this project which will upgrade the current software. Images are shared during regular Multidisciplinary Teleconference meetings between Oxford and Southampton teams. The upgrade will enable the team to view a patient's condition in more detail supporting joint decisions about diagnosis and treatment pathway.

CONGENITAL CARDIAC – The National Congenital Cardiac Review has continued into 2016. We have recently submitted a service standards self-assessment exercise which will form part of the National Commissioning Procurement process. New Networks will be implemented imminently.



Children's Critical Care Network (ODN)



Carolyn Cairns
Manager
Critical Care (ODN)
Thames Valley & Wessex

Carolyn Cairns joined us as Network Manager in January 2016 and will initially concentrate on implementing the ODN for Critical Care across the Thames Valley & Wessex regions. Carolyn is an alumni of the NHS Graduate Management Training Scheme and has worked operationally and strategically in the NHS for over 7 years. Carolyn will work in conjunction with **Mike Linney** who has commenced as Clinical Lead, also this January. Mike is a general paediatrician from Chichester and brings his extensive experience of clinical forum work to the Network. He is also the RCPCH Wessex Representative.



Mike Linney
Clinical Lead
Critical Care (ODN)
Thames Valley & Wessex

New national **PICS Standards** have been recently released and the ODN member hospitals will be reviewing their services against the revised standards to help identify any areas for focus. Thames Valley and Wessex have each held a clinical forum in January and are looking forward to a network event in June to further their joint working. Recent protocols developed by members of the Network include a tool for Sepsis and a time critical transfer policy.

A website has been set up for the ODN although it's currently being developed. Please visit the network homepage at <https://www.networks.nhs.uk/nhs-networks/thames-valley-wessex-paediatric-critical-care-odn> to join up and get involved.



Children's Rehabilitation Network



Sophie Goddard
Network Project Manager,
Rehabilitation

Sophie Goddard joined the CHN as a second year NHS Management trainee in what we believe to be the first time that a Trainee has worked in a regional network model. Sophie is concentrating on implementing the Children's Rehabilitation Network (in an ODN Model) across Thames Valley & Wessex.

Fenella Kirkham and **Konrad Jacobs** are joint Clinical Leads, both driving a more integrated rehabilitation service forward. Fenella, a Consultant Paediatric Neurologist has an extensive clinical background with a particular interest in research. Fenella has collaborated with paediatric neurologists, haematologists and respiratory physicians around the world on guidelines and research. Konrad Jacobs, a Consultant Clinical Psychologist founded, and remains heavily involved in the Oxford Centre for Children and Young People in Pain with a specialist interest in paediatric rehabilitation.

Southampton have all team members in post and hosted a team away day on 22nd January to discuss steps forward and the role of the Network. The team are extremely dedicated and provide gold standard neuro-rehabilitation to all the children and young people that enter the service. The Children's Trust have funded an additional member of Southampton's team, Aimee Mehrabian, a Brain Injury Specialist who works as a coordinator for any onward referrals to Tadworth but also for identifying the needs of those with mild to moderate needs who may require additional support. Aimee provides valuable input to children and their families in terms of outreach support, school liaison and signposting to onward services.

The Oxford rehabilitation team will be welcoming, Emma Dunford (Psychologist), Carol Beaumont (PT), Charlotte West (OT) and Anne Myhill (OT) who will be joining the service in March and April. This will see the launch of the integrated inpatient and ambulatory neuro-rehab service. There are plans for an Oxford team away day in May to finalise pathways and protocols.

The teams at Oxford and Southampton are planning joint clinical education days to share good practice and learning, with the first one likely to take place in the summer.

The Chronic Pain teams at OUH and UHS have started working more closely, with the aim of supporting each other to prevent patients being sent to clinics outside of the Network, often a long way from home. Oxford's paediatric virtual gym was awarded the winner of the category for Emerging Best Practice from the British Society of Rheumatology which was great news to the team. This excellent achievement was awarded by the panel due to the novel approach taken by the initiative and the impact it is having on transforming the lives of children and young people.



Fenella Kirkham
Clinical Lead, Rehabilitation



Konrad Jacobs
Clinical Lead, Rehabilitation

Other Network Developments

ORTHOPAEDIC – For 16/17 the **Orthopaedic Network** is in its infancy but Tim Theologis, Consultant Paediatric Orthopaedic Surgeon in Oxford and Mike Uglow, Consultant Paediatric Orthopaedic Surgeon in Southampton wish to develop and grow the Network over the coming years.

Oxford is one of five national centres for removing paediatric bone tumours and the presence of the gait lab allows for even more comprehensive assessment. The Network will allow the teams to build on this expertise and develop the region as an area of excellence.

The Thames Valley Orthopaedic Clinical Forum has been in existence for some time and the Southampton Surgeons now attend as a similar forum does not exist in Wessex. The current forum also has representatives from Northampton, Milton Keynes, Stoke Mandeville, Wexham Park, Reading, Swindon and Cheltenham.

The hope is that Wessex DGH's will become more involved as the Network develops.

For 2016/2017, the Network has four main priorities:

1. Develop a web-based platform for easier communication for the Consultants to share good practice and case studies, to upload documents and share patient information with the correct information governance protocols in place.
2. To facilitate movement across the region to allow Consultants to move fluidly between DGHs and the tertiary centres.
3. To capture and understand patient movement across the region.
4. To keep orthopaedic cases within the Network so that patients do not have to travel long distances for surgery.

RHEUMATOLOGY – In 2015 Team members across the network began discussing the likelihood of working together with a view to shared learning, education and expertise. Kathy Bailey, Consultant Paediatric Rheumatologist in Oxford and Alice Leahy, Consultant Paediatric Rheumatologist in Southampton

are currently setting plans and priorities for the coming year.

We hope this will be another successful partnership of collaborative working to improve the quality of care for patients in the Thames Valley and Wessex regions.

Network-wide Patient and Parent Involvement strategy – Patient and carer involvement is really important to us. We want to hear what children and young people think and ensure that we involve them in further development of their services. We are currently discussing plans with a view to implement a Network wide strategy plan which will help us achieve this.



Katie King
CHN Transition
Project Lead

TRANSITION – based on the fantastic Ready, Steady, Go (RSG) project devised by Dr Arvind Nagra at Southampton Children's Hospital, the CHN were successful in the bid for funding via the Thames Valley Strategic Clinical Network (TVSCN) to support a Project Lead for a year to implement RSG across Thames Valley and Milton Keynes. Katie progressed this project in 2015 at great speed with numerous Children's and Adult services now implementing the model across the region. Katie has now commenced maternity leave, but we thank her for her hard work and enthusiasm. Following on from this excellent work, we have managed to agree a further 15 months of funding via TVSCN with a view to enable us to implement a sustainable Transition programme and gain parity across the regions. More information to follow.



Dates for **your** diary – upcoming events for 2016

Children's Critical Care (ODN)

- Southampton Oxford Retrieval Team (SORT) meeting, 3rd May 10.00-1230 at OUH
- Paediatric Critical Care Network Education Day 5th May 08.30-16.30 at Salisbury
- Thames Valley training for Care of Child Awaiting Retrieval – 6th May and 30th September at OUH.
- Critical Care Thames Valley & Wessex Joint Day will be on 16th June, details tbc

Neurosciences (ODN)

- Thames Valley Paediatric Neurosciences Clinical Forum, Date tbc
- Wessex Paediatric Neurosciences Clinical Forum, Friday 8th April, 2.00-4.00pm, Oakley Road, Southampton
- 1st Thames Valley and Wessex Paediatric Neurosciences Clinical Network Day, Tuesday 3rd May, 09.30-16.30, The Chequers, Newbury

Children's Hospitals Network

*Providing a sustainable Clinical Network
Delivering healthcare to patients requiring Specialist Services*

www.oschn.nhs.uk