

Southampton, Hampshire, Isle of Wight and Portsmouth PCT Cluster Review of vascular Surgery – January 2012

1 Background

Since the last update to Hampshire HOSC in November there have been a number of important developments in the progress of our proposals for vascular surgery. The purpose of this paper is to bring the HOSC up to date, prior to the Southampton, Hampshire, Isle of Wight and Portsmouth (SHIP) public consultation on vascular services which will be launched in the near future.

2. Developing options for vascular surgery

As outlined in our previous paper discussions have been taking place between clinicians to develop formal proposals for vascular surgery. At the time of our November briefing we were awaiting a formal proposal from Portsmouth Hospitals NHS Trust to become a 'stand alone centre' for vascular services.

We received a detailed proposal from Portsmouth Hospital Trust on November 23 and since then we have been assessing its viability. Part of our assessment of the proposal has involved detailed discussions with GPs in the Chichester area and in Portsmouth and South East Hampshire to test their views on this proposal. This option was also subject to scrutiny by an independent expert panel of clinicians on Thursday 5 January 2012. The panel concluded that the proposal was clinically viable in the short term but would represent a challenge for the Trust in the longer term. The minutes of the panel are attached.

Since the panel took place we have proceeded to develop two options for public consultation. Both options are being developed to take account of the significant feedback received during the engagement phase and also as a result of pre-consultation discussions and engagement with a number of key stakeholders including local CCGs, vascular surgeons and informal meetings with the Portsmouth HOSP and Hampshire HOSC.

Meanwhile, the case for change is now even more acute, in that the Sussex service focused around Brighton is moving towards implementation, which means that the current shared rota between Portsmouth Hospital and Chichester must come to an end. Whilst we are assured that some temporary interim solution will be established to cover this gap, it is increasingly important that we move towards an agreed long term, sustainable solution.

3. Outline of emerging models

The models that are likely to be the subject of public consultation are set out below. It is important to note that as a result of feedback received, the Portsmouth and

Southampton Network option that is being developed is significantly different from the option that was originally proposed in the NHS South Central engagement document.

The two options that are emerging are:

i. The Network Model – one service, several sites

Surgeons and interventional radiologists from Southampton and Portsmouth would work together as a network to deliver a co-ordinated, vascular service across a number of hospital sites. All patients would receive their outpatient and follow up appointments at their local hospital.

We are continuing to work closely with both University Hospital Southampton NHS Foundation Trust and Portsmouth Hospitals NHS Trust to firm up exactly what vascular activity would take place at each hospital, given the feedback from our expert panel and the views of local clinicians.

A network service like this has been running successfully in north Hampshire for 18 months and will remain unchanged.

ii. The Standalone Model – two networks and one standalone centre at Queen Alexandra Hospital

Two vascular networks and one standalone centre would be created across Southampton, Hampshire, Isle of Wight and Portsmouth. This would mean:

- Southampton General Hospital would remain the vascular centre for Winchester, Southampton, south west Hampshire and the Isle of Wight
- Frimley Park Hospital would remain the vascular centre for Basingstoke and north east Hampshire patients.
- Queen Alexandra Hospital, Portsmouth would become a stand alone vascular centre for Portsmouth and south east Hampshire.

4. Public consultation

The SHIP PCT Cluster was planning to commence formal public consultation on January 16, 2012. However we have decided to delay the start of the consultation because of the ongoing nature of discussions between the two Trusts.

5. Action required

The HOSC are asked to note the latest developments.