

# Vascular Services on the South Coast

**Progress towards a Network**

# Wessex Area Team and CCG Action

- **Clear commitment to commission a network model of service as this will provide the most sustainable service for patients going forward**
- **Monitoring the quality of existing services at each of the local Trusts for compliance with the Vascular Society of Great Britain and Ireland (VSGBI) standards.**
- **Contract compliance meetings to examine resourcing of the service**

# Wessex Area Team and CCG Action

- **Facilitated discussions between the two Trusts assisted by Jonathan Earnshaw**
- **Continued dialogue with the Chief Executives of both Trusts on their commitment to shared services**
- **Strategic Planning Group meeting established- met December 12 and February 13 to review implementation plans**

# Shared Commitments

**University Hospitals  
Southampton NHS FT and  
Portsmouth Hospitals NHS Trust**

# Principles agreed

- **Research**
  - All the clinicians agree there is scope for a collaborative approach to research in vascular research.
  - This can cover the entirety of the speciality and is consistent with NIHR plans and the Academic Health Science Network.
- **Training and Education**
  - National change in training of vascular surgeons in part resulting from the recognition as a distinct new specialty. To maximise the chance of becoming a training network a joint application for training has been submitted.
- **On call service**
  - Two of the PHT surgeons agreed to take part in a joint on call system to operate at the weekends.
  - Details of how this will work are being developed.
- **Major aortic cases**
  - It was agreed that open aortic surgery would be moved to UHSFT .

# Reasons for working together - to ensure quality

- **Network would undertake enough activity to have high quality outcomes.**
- **Service must be available to treat patients 24 hours a day for 7 days a week.**
- **Service needs to be sustainable and meet standards demanded by commissioners.**

# Reasons for working together - to ensure quality

- **Additional Areas to be developed as part of emerging network:**
  - **Development of joint UHS and PHT vascular service Multi Disciplinary Team.**
  - **Support of complex aortic aneurysm surgery.**
  - **Subspecialisation of vascular team members.**

# Timeline

- **Stages of change required to move to network**
- **July 2013**
  - Centralised weekend cover for all vascular emergencies based at UHSFT with two PHT surgeons joining the 6 UHSFT surgeons on a one in ten rota.
  - This arrangement could start with centralised on call for the weekends then moving to the whole week.
  - Possibility of a “Surgeon of the Week” as part of a shared rota.
  - All aortic surgery to be centralised at UHSFT.
- **October 2013**
  - All elective AAA open interventions to be centralised at UHS.

# Next Steps

- **Strategic Planning group has confirmed commissioning intentions for 13/14 and road map for implementation**
- **Implementation to be tested against “Derogation” Policy to confirm precise timeline to meet all national standards**
- **Draft joint rotas**
- **Develop communication plan**
- **Update Patient and Public Reference Group**