

Breast Care Services Review

Stakeholder Newsletter

Newsletter 2

August 2009

Welcome

Welcome to the second edition of the Breast Care Services Review stakeholder newsletter. We are pleased to report that there has been a good deal of activity and we are still on track to conclude the review by early 2010. We are feeling positive about the progress made so far so read on to find out more!

Change to the new service model

Following feedback from some clinical groups concerning the lack of evidence from the nurse-led pilot currently underway in Yate, we felt the proposed new clinical model needed to be altered slightly. This alteration will see a recommendation that all patients are referred to the hub in the first instance with the spokes focusing on follow up patients. We feel this will improve the model by ensuring all patients have access to the highly skilled multi-disciplinary team at the hub, whilst still benefiting from care closer to home by having their follow up appointments in the spokes. When evidence from the Yate pilot is available in 6 to 12 months time we will consider the results and whether we can expand what is available at the spokes, for example to include ultra sound.

Rapid Improvement Event

On Friday 17th July, clinicians, managers and patient and lay representatives came together to map out the clinical pathway that will accompany the hub and spoke model. Babs Williams, Head of Service Design at NHS Bristol, facilitated the event and ensured that we remained focused on the patient benefits.



We are now seeking comments on the draft pathway. Please go to www.avon.nhs.uk/bhsp and go to Current service reviews and click on breast care or contact Emma Phillips (details at end of newsletter) if you have not received a copy.

Location of the hub

We are aware of the anxiety amongst stakeholders that surrounds the location of the hub and have committed ourselves to ensuring the process for coming up with a recommended location is open, transparent and completed quickly.

There are two possible options for the hub: the new Southmead Hospital, part of North Bristol NHS Trust and as part of University Hospitals Bristol NHS Foundation Trust.

A panel will convene on Friday 4th September to undertake an initial assessment of the two potential locations. Stakeholders will be invited to present their views and evidence in writing, via email, by telephone or in person. If you would like further information about this process please visit the website or contact Emma Phillips (details at end of newsletter).



Jargon busting

During discussions about the service model and clinical pathway and what criteria should be used for assessing the location of the hub the term 'clinical adjacencies' has been cropping up and we thought it would be useful to explain what we mean by this.

The term clinical adjacency describes the relationship between two clinical services such that the location of those services together will offer benefits across a number of potential domains. The domains include:

- Efficiency
- Safety
- Patient experience
- Outcomes
- Use of workforce, equipment or other resources
- Delivery of patient clinical pathways

Health Equity and Defining Outcomes

Dr Jo Williams, Specialist Trainee in Public Health, is leading this piece of work which aims to ensure the service we develop is accessible to all and promotes health equity. She has been liaising with key people and will be producing a report ready for the September Project Board meeting. This work stream will also be responsible for conducting an Equality Impact Assessment.

Scrutiny

All four local scrutiny committees (Bristol, North Somerset, South Gloucestershire, Bath and North East Somerset) have been presented with an update on the Breast Care Services Review from a patient and management perspective. We have been pleased with the positive reception this has received. We are now working on the completion of an Impact Assessment to test whether the changes planned are a 'substantial variation' from the current service. We will take the results of the impact assessment to the local scrutiny committees in October and November for their views and update stakeholders in future newsletters. Local Councillors are interested in being involved in this review as stakeholders.

Lay involvement

Our vision for future breast care services for the people of Bristol, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire is about ensuring users of the services receive the best care possible. In order to achieve this we need to remain patient focused and therefore we are committed to ensuring patient and public involvement is embedded throughout the review. One of the ways of achieving this is by having lay representation on the Project Board and the Project team and participation in each of the four work streams. We also have a representative from North Somerset Local Improvement Network on the Project Board, she is representing all three Links locally. A member of staff from The Care Forum is also on the Project Board representing voluntary sector organisations. The Care Forum also advertise this newsletter to their members.

There is a patient and public involvement plan for the review. If you would like a copy go to the website or contact Emma Phillips.

Anyone who would like to become more involved in the review can contact Emma Phillips (details at end of newsletter).

Independent External Quality Assurance

Nigel Warmington and Julie Fabian from Basis, have been appointed to provide the review with an independent external quality assurance function. They will act as a critical friend to ensure the project keeps on track.

How to contact us

If you would like more information, or to get involved with the Breast Care Services Review, please contact Emma Phillips via email, emma.phillips@bristolpct.nhs.uk, or telephone 0117 984 1629.

Also look at the Bristol Health Services Plan website www.avon.nhs.uk/bhsp and go to Current service reviews and click on Breast care.

If you would like further copies of this newsletter or in another format, please contact the BHSP office at South Plaza, Marlborough Street, Bristol, BS13NX, telephone: 0117 9841629 or emma.phillips@bristolpct.nhs.uk