



NWL Cardiac Network Communication



Who are we?

The North West London Cardiac Network (NWLCN) brings together clinical teams, senior managers and representatives of other organisations, such as the ambulance service, independent sector and universities to:

- plan and develop services
- establish education/workforce development programmes across primary, secondary care and specialist services
- reduce inequalities and improve the quality of care for cardiac patients and their carers.

NWLCN is accountable to the NWL Chief Executive Forum and comprises a Board, chaired by a NWL PCT Chief Executive. The Board consists of clinical and non-clinical representatives from across NWL.

The NWLCN is supported in all aspects of its work by the Heart2Heart User Forum which comprises patients and carers from across the NWL community.

What work is the Network currently supporting?

A number of key priorities have been identified and a variety of clinical working groups are now established to drive forward improvements in these areas including:

- **Heart failure** —agreeing standards of care across NWL in both the diagnosis and chronic disease management for this patient group and improving pathways between primary and secondary care.
- **Rehabilitation** —developing a generic referral system and supporting the development of more community-based rehabilitation initiatives.
- **Primary care** —agreeing network-wide prescribing guidelines for specific cardiac drugs; developing education programmes for clinical teams within primary care and delivering preventative initiatives starting with CHD in women.

For more information on the activities of the Network or to comment on how we can improve communications, visit www.nwlcn.co.uk.



- **Revascularisation** — implementing a cost effective model to support the delivery of primary angioplasty to all NWL patients presenting with ST-elevated myocardial infarction; agreeing a generic risk assessment tool to improve prioritisation and reduce delays for cardiac inter-hospital transfers from secondary to tertiary services.
- **Arrhythmias and sudden death** — supporting the implementation of the new chapter of the National Service Framework.
- **Imaging** — agreeing pathways to allow clinicians access to the various imaging modalities across the NWL sector.
- **18-week wait** — implementing a number of projects spanning referral, diagnostics and treatment to enable clinical teams to achieve delivery of the 18 week wait target from GP referral to definitive treatment.
- Advising and supporting decision making around commissioning and cost effectiveness of high quality cardiac services.
- Assisting in the development of new community led services.
- Sharing good practice.
- Developing accredited CHD education/training programmes for GPs and other primary care clinical teams.
- Developing shared clinical protocols across primary and secondary care.
- Developing generic pharmaceutical guidelines for specific cardiac related drugs.
- Supporting implementation of NSF and NICE recommendations.
- Taking forward specific prevention initiatives across NW London.

How can the NWLCN support and work more closely with colleagues in primary care?

There are a number of ways in which the network can work with colleagues in primary care. Some examples include:

More information and how to contact NWL Network

The Network's website contains further details on all aspects of our work. Feedback is always welcome so if you have comments, suggestions of ways in which we can work with you or how we can improve communications with you, please contact us via our website (www.nwlcn.co.uk) or by email jinty.wilson@harrowpct.nhs.uk.

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