



Dec 2012

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Newsletter roundup

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Additional documents

Information requests

Email
info@slcsn.nhs.uk or
visit the [Network website](#).

Highlight report - December 2012

Senior responsible officer - Lucy Grothier, Director, SLCSN
Report through 31st December 2012

Update on the London Strategic Clinical Network

The London Strategic Clinical Network which will come into operation from 1 April 2013 is starting to take shape. Staff are being recruited, including the appointment of Lucy Grothier, current director SLCSN, as associate director. The London Strategic Clinical Networks are expected to cover:

- cancer;
- cardiovascular disease (incorporating cardiac, stroke, diabetes and renal disease);
- maternity and children;
- mental health, dementia and neurological conditions.

More information on the planned shape and objectives of strategic clinical networks and senates is now available from the [NHS Commissioning Board](#).

Can draining blood cut cholesterol and ward off cancer?

Local cardiologist, Dr Richard Bogle, lead cardiologist at Epsom and St Helier University Hospitals NHS Trust, comments in [the Daily Mail](#) on a research study on blood letting with reductions in cholesterol, concluding results from the recent studies may link with other evidence and more research is needed.

NHS Commissioning Board consults on service specifications and clinical policies

The [NHS Commissioning Board](#) is consulting on policies and service specifications, including a number covering [cardiac related service specifications](#). The consultation will run from 12 December 2012 until 18 January 2013.

NHS South London Cardiovascular and Stroke Network

Senior responsible officer:
Lucy Grothier, Director
Circulation: NHS South East London and NHS South West London
Report for period: 1-31 December 2012

Prevention workstream

The next prevention meeting is to be held at the network offices on 23 January from 1-3pm. Please contact [Sara Nelson](#) for more information.

New network screening checklist and transfer of care document

A new transfer of care document has been developed by the Network for use in patients prescribed [new oral anticoagulants](#), alongside other useful information about anticoagulants.

NICE local formularies guide to reduce variation in prescribing

NICE has produced a [good practice guide](#) to help trusts develop and update local formularies, as part of a move to ensure that all patients in England have access to clinically and cost-effective drugs.

Heart failure

People with diabetes 65% more likely to have heart failure

The latest statistics from the [National Diabetes Audit](#) analysed over two million people with diabetes in the UK. People with diabetes are 48% more likely to have a heart attack and 25% more likely to have a stroke. British Heart Foundation's medical director, Professor Peter Weissberg, said: "These figures show that the biggest problem with diabetes is its devastating effect on the heart and circulation".

Chest pain

A meeting was held on in December to discuss the future of integrated community cardiology services across the sector. Presentations were given by Greenwich, Lambeth, Bromley and Kingston Clinical Commissioning Groups and a question and answer session allowed organisations to share best practice and learn from each other. All agreed it was a worthwhile exercise and plan follow up on progress in six months time. The minutes and presentations can be found here:

[Link](#)

The next Chest Pain and Revascularisation meeting is to be held on 29 January from 8.30-10am at the network office.

Performance on the stroke units

Annual assessments have now been completed for all the south London accredited HASUs and SUs. Reports are being collated and will be shared with Trusts and commissioners. The next stage of accreditation visits for Princess Royal University Hospital and Queen Elizabeth stroke units will take place in January 2013.

New stroke audit to be used in London from 1 January 2013

The Sentinel Stroke National Audit Programme (SSNAP) is a new programme of work which aims to improve the quality of stroke care by auditing stroke services against evidence based standards. SSNAP will build on the work of the National Sentinel Stroke Audit and the Stroke Improvement National Audit Programme (SINAP).

The clinical component of SSNAP will be used in place of the London Minimum Dataset from 1 January, with the aim of collecting a minimum dataset for every stroke patient, including acute care, rehabilitation, six month follow up, and outcome measures. Community teams and specialist rehabilitation units will be included for the first time.

SSNAP will provide the data for all other statutory data collections including the NICE Quality Standard and Accelerating Stroke Improvement metrics, and the chosen method for collection for stroke measures in the NHS Outcomes Framework and Commissioning Outcomes Framework (subject to recommendations by the NICE

Seven day services – presentations from national event

Papers are now available from the recent meeting in London to consider the importance of **seven day services** and its contribution to improving patient outcomes and mortality, with a particular focus on the importance of early rehabilitation for patients with long term conditions.

Network diary dates

South London prevention meeting, 23 January, 1-3pm

HASU leads meeting, 24 January, 3-5pm, Wellcome Trust, 183 Euston Road

Introduction to Stroke Sentinel National Audit Programme workshop, 9:30 – 2:30, 25 January, One Moorgate Place, EC2R 6EA

Inherited cardiac diseases meeting, 28 January (details tbc)

Pan London Cardiovascular and Stroke Network Board, 29 January, 9-11am, Friends House, Euston

Chest pain and revascularisation meeting, 29 January, 8:30-10am

Stroke physiotherapists peer support meeting, 13 February, 9am -12pm

South London stroke rehabilitation workstream meeting, 28 February, 2-4pm

South London industry meeting, 27 February, 10am-12pm

South east London stroke acute workstream meeting, 1 March, 10am-12pm

South west London stroke acute workstream meeting, 1 March, 2-4pm

All meetings are at the Network office, 84 Kennington Road, London, SE11 6NL unless otherwise stated. Please contact info@slcsn.nhs.uk for more information.