



The London Cardiovascular Project

Transforming services across the capital



London Cardiac and Stroke Networks

The [London Cardiovascular \(LCV\) Project](#) aims to improve treatment, care and outcomes for complex and emergency cardiovascular patients.

The London Cardiac Networks were directed by NHS London to support local implementation across the capital with oversight from the Pan-London Cardiac and Stroke Network Board.

Full implementation is to be completed by March 2012.

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London Cardiovascular Project update
August 2011

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Cardiac Surgery

Recent achievements

- The cardiac surgery commissioning document, now known as the [London Cardiovascular Project Cardiac Surgery Service Specification](#), was signed off at the 19th July Pan-London Cardiac and Stroke Network Board (PLCSNB) meeting. It contains baseline data, quality standards and implementation timeframes.
- It was agreed at the 19th July PLCSNB meeting that Networks will be responsible for monitoring performance via regular highlight reports to the Board, cluster chief executives and the NHS Delivery Group.
- The London Cardiac Network Directors have informed chief executives at each provider in London of this news.

In progress

- The London Cardiac Networks teams are crafting detailed implementation plans consisting of key actions to achieve the quality standards in a timely fashion. These plans should be used to support local Trusts to achieve the standards within the required time frames.
- The London Cardiac Network teams are identifying appropriate data sources for monitoring the progress of implementation and performance of the different services. They are keen to find the solution that yields the greatest support from clinicians and is thus considering several options such as the SCTS and electronic referral systems. It is expected that the first metrics report will be presented to the Board in September.
- A slide deck is being created which summarises the [Cardiac Surgery Service Specification](#). The Network teams will be sharing this presentation with local commissioners and clinicians.

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NSTEACS

Recent achievements

- The NSTEACS quality standards have been developed by clinicians from across the capital. These will be used to assess potential NSTEACS centres in London.
- Local (Network-based) action plans have been created. An agreed process for site identification and evaluation criteria are included within the plans.
- The definition of high risk NSTEACS patients has been agreed and signed off by a clinical panel.
- A [customisable training slide deck](#) has been created for A&E staff.

In progress

- Collaboration with cluster commissioners and London Ambulance Service is in process to clarify activity increase, transfer protocols and funding.
- Trusts proposing to become NSTEACS centres will be assessed beginning in August against the quality standards by an external committee consisting of a commissioner, clinician and Network representative.

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Arrhythmia

Recent achievements

- A baseline survey of current services has been completed by all centres across London.
- The quality standards have been developed and have been signed off by the Pan-London Cardiac and Stroke Network Board.
- There is a need for a continuous data collection method. Three leaders have been identified to take this forward based on an initial list of metrics agreed by the working group.
- Central units have all developed access to 24-hour telephone emergency arrhythmia expertise.

In progress

- The working group is developing protocols, referral criteria and defined outcomes measures with an anticipated publish date in September.

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Vascular

Recent achievements

- Sites providing arterial vascular service have been agreed in each cluster (with the exception of North Central London, which will be determined in August).
- Local (Network-based) action plans have been developed to support area networking arrangements across elective and emergency care pathways.

In progress

- Capacity modelling is underway and a plan for the phased move of procedures is in development.
- A pan-London meeting of vascular clinical leads will be held in October to ensure consistency in protocols and pathways.

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Patient/public engagement

Recent achievements

- The LCV Project Patient Panel met in July to discuss their future role. This includes:
 - ensuring that the panel recommendations are implemented
 - developing of new ways of measuring improved patient experience
 - applying a consistent approach to the inclusion and implementation of the patient quality standards
 - helping to strengthen public and patient engagement at a local level during the implementation phase.
- The Pan-London Cardiac and Stroke Network Board have agreed that the LCV Project Patient Panel will continue to support the London Cardiac Networks during the local implementation phase.

In progress

- The panel will meet in September to discuss a patient questionnaire to better understand patient experience during implementation and thereafter.

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