
Introducing the new National Strategic Clinical Networks



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Foreword

**Samia Edmonds**

*Director of Planning,
Healthcare Strategy and Planning Division
Welsh Government*

I am delighted to welcome you to the first edition of a regular communication to update you on the work of our new National Strategic Clinical Networks.

In this inaugural issue, we will briefly introduce the faces behind each network and give a quick summary of key priorities and details of the work already underway. We welcome your thoughts and feedback, so please do get in touch with us, sending any questions or suggestions to NHSWHC.CommsTeam@wales.nhs.uk

The Strategic Clinical Networks are an important vehicle for realising the ambition set out in the National Clinical Framework and describe 'what good looks like' in each of their respective areas, as well as expectations for delivery across health for our population in Wales.

A key focus will be engagement with our many and varied stakeholders, working with colleagues within NHS organisations, our partners in social care, together with colleagues in independent and third sectors.

The networks are the mechanism to support improvement, change - including innovation and value - and delivery with a sharp focus on reducing clinical variation, improving outcomes, and removing inequalities.

I am looking forward to working with our networks, and to communicating their work programmes, progress and achievements with you over the coming months.



Dr Meinir Jones

*National Clinical Director, Networks,
NHS Wales Executive*

The National Strategic Clinical Networks are a key component of the National Clinical Framework model and will perform the central role of the ‘knowledge-to-practice’ element in the Learning Health and Care System laid out in the National Clinical Framework.

At their very core is clinical leadership. For our networks, both individually and collectively, the importance of the multi-professional and collective clinical voice in a leadership role cannot be overstated.

Underpinned by the quality statements, the national strategic clinical networks have been created to support the burden of disease. The networks provide an unparalleled opportunity to identify cross cutting themes and to move away from silo working. By collaborating with colleagues across the NHS Wales Executive, we can improve outcomes for our populations and provide a central role in the knowledge to practice element, bringing the learning from ‘A Healthier Wales’, to life.

Guided by the relevant Quality Statements, the networks work to, and create consensus on, high value clinical pathways based on evidence-based practice and co-production. The networks monitor the pathway and outcome data to support local benchmarking and accountability arrangements.

By encouraging innovation, quality improvement and spread of good practice, the networks will support the wider planning and performance management function of the NHS Executive and Welsh Government.

**Mark Dickinson**

*Director of Networks,
NHS Wales Executive*

The creation of the new National Strategic Clinical Networks represents a once in a generation opportunity to drive change, improve outcomes, reduce variation, and improve the health and lives of our population in Wales.

Located within the Networks and Planning directorate of the NHS Wales Executive, the focus of the networks is to improve the quality, sustainability and outcomes of NHS Wales services within their relevant area of focus.

Working between operational service delivery in health boards and trusts and the formulation of policy and strategy in Welsh Government, each network is clinically led and draws directly on the expertise of clinicians operating in front line service delivery in primary, community, secondary and tertiary care.

The networks use data and available evidence, as well as contributing and improving this data, and undertake widespread engagement with the third sector, patient representatives, and industry.

Through close liaison with each of the National Strategic Programmes and other programmes within the NHS Executive on a range of issues where the scopes of networks and programmes meet, the networks will play a major role in ensuring the NHS Executive fulfils the expectations set out in Mandate and Remit Letter.



National Strategic Clinical Network for Cancer

Our network is dedicated to advancing the fight against cancer through collaboration, innovation, and compassionate care. The mission of the network is to unite healthcare professionals, researchers, and organisations to create a seamless and patient-centred continuum of cancer services ensuring timely and equitable access for the resident population of Wales.

Who are we?



Clinical Lead

Professor Tom Crosby



Network Manager

Kimberley Meringolo



Lead Chief Executive

Suzanne Rankin



Lead Executive

Paul Bostock

In 2023 the network published the three-year Cancer Improvement Plan for Wales and the new network has set out in its workplan for 2024/25 the continuation of its implementation by working with NHS Wales stakeholders, who are involved in cancer care, to deliver the improvements needed. The key areas of the Cancer Improvement Plan focus on implementing measurable improvement in prevention, diagnosis, treatment effectiveness and experience of cancer patients in Wales through the nine key themes for focus.

Through the delivery of work programmes and projects the network has set out the following priorities for 2024/25.

- 1. Implement network actions within the Cancer Improvement Plan and co-ordinate wider monitoring** – The main focus of 2024/25 will be the continuation of the Cancer Improvement Plan. Bi-annual reports will be developed in collaboration with the wider NHS Executive, NHS Wales and Welsh Government.
- 2. Implement network actions for earlier detection and faster diagnosis and treatment within the Cancer Improvement Plan** - Evidence correlates early diagnosis with earlier treatment and improved outcomes. The Cancer Network will continue with its work on the Lung Health Check Pilot, developing a final report for consideration.

- 3. Implement network actions for optimal pathways and timely access within the Cancer Improvement Plan** – Patients should start their first definitive treatment within 62 days of the point of suspicion. Wales has led the way in the UK in developing National Optimal Pathways (NOPs). NOPs describe what should happen to ensure timely access to evidence based diagnosis and treatment, and the support that patients should receive. Throughout 2024/25 the network will continue to develop robust and timely development of new NOPs as well as a cycle for the review of existing NOPs to ensure they are appropriate.
- 4. Implement network actions for effective treatment within the Cancer Improvement Plan** – Through the development of key service specifications and All-Wales standards for various initiatives the network will set out evidence-based expectations to ensure patients have access to the most effective treatment.
- 5. Implement network actions for improving patient experience, engagement, and quality of care;** supporting patients through and beyond treatment within the Cancer Improvement Plan and co-ordinate wider monitoring - Within the Cancer Improvement Plan there is specific reference to the co-production of care and the need to assess and meet people's needs. The network is working on the publication of a detailed plan to deliver national strategy for cancer Patient Reported Experience Measures (PREMs) integrating Welsh Government recommendations on patient experience to inform practice(s). Both of these actions have the potential to act as test pieces that can be rolled out for site specific cancer or across broader Networks.
- 6. Implement network actions for key system enablers, including information, innovation, and workforce within the Cancer Improvement Plan** – For the network to deliver its priorities, there are key system enablers that will support the delivery of improved access and reduced variation to cancer services across Wales. In the 2024/25 workplan there are several actions to support HEIW's work so that we can understand the detail of our workforce. We also want to be innovative with how we increase our use of digital solutions to capture data and to also support the delivery of our services.

Contact us: WCN.WalesCancerNetwork@wales.nhs.uk

Quality Statement for Cancer:
www.gov.wales/quality-statement-cancer-html

National Strategic Clinical Network for Cardiovascular Conditions

Our purpose is to drive the implementation of Welsh Government's key policy requirements, including the development of Quality Statements for Heart Conditions, Stroke and Vascular Disease, addressing any unwarranted variation of care in clinical services.

We work with partners at the interface of primary, secondary and tertiary care to provide improved care and outcomes for people of all ages at risk of, or affected by, cardiovascular conditions.

Our national programmes and implementation networks are our mechanism to support improvement, change (including innovation and value) and delivery.

Who are we?



**Clinical Lead for
Cardiovascular
and Cardiac**

*Dr Jonathan
Goodfellow*



**Clinical Lead for
Stroke**

*Dr Shakeel
Ahmad*



**Clinical Lead for
Vascular**

Dr Kevin Conway



Network Manager

Stephen Davies



**Lead Chief
Executive**

*Nicola
Prygodzicz*

Our current projects include:

National refocus on secondary prevention

- We are working with Public Health Wales, the National Strategic Clinical Network for Diabetes, health boards, primary care and colleagues from the third sector.

Workforce

- **Cardiac** - Improving access to diagnostic cardiac testing through increasing the number of trained cardiac physiologists.
- **Vascular** - Analysis of current services to enhance modelling of future services.

Improving data quality and IT systems

- **Cardiac** - National procurement of replacement cardiac IT/PACS system within health boards, working with the Digital Health Care Wales, NHS Wales Shared Services and supported by the Digital, Data, Technology, Innovation and Value Directorate (DDITV) in NHS Executive.
- **Stroke** - Integrate advanced technology and improve data collection and validation, supporting SSNAP (Sentinel Stroke National Audit Programme) changes, developing outcome and experiences measures.
- **Vascular** - Improve data analysis – data to knowledge objective.

Improving access to treatment

Cardiac

- Enhanced triage of outpatient referrals from primary care.
- Better understanding of the rise in outpatient referrals from primary care – there has been >100% increase over the past four years in some health boards in Wales.
- Focus on improving patient pathways.

Stroke

- Enhance response and treatment times for stroke.
- Prioritising awareness of signs and symptoms (FAST – Face, Arms, Speech Time and NESA, the Welsh version of FAST), optimising pre-hospital care through the use of pre-hospital video technology, and focusing on the critical first four hours of hospital arrival throughout (embedding the Welsh Optimal Stroke Imaging Pathway).

Development of comprehensive regional models

Stroke

- Developing a stroke model for Wales, focusing on baseline review of service model, gap analysis against clinical standards and optimal model, capacity and demand modelling, financial and economic health, and workforce reviews and development of service specifications, optimal pathways, and models of care.

Service Specifications and Pathways

Vascular

- Develop national service specifications and pathways.
- Implementation of the Acute Aortic Dissection Toolkit/pathway.

Save a Life Cymru

This programme was established in 2019 by Welsh Government to equip people with the skills to deal with an out of hospital cardiac arrest by increasing the number of people who are willing to give CPR, to increase the public's understanding of defibrillators and ensure that survival of an out of hospital cardiac arrest is the same across Wales. The programme is hosted by the Cardiovascular Conditions network.

Contact us: SaveALifeCymru@wales.nhs.uk

Quality Statement for Stroke: www.gov.wales/quality-statement-stroke-html

Quality Statement for Vascular Disease: www.gov.wales/quality-statement-vascular-disease-html

National Strategic Clinical Network for Child Health

Our network was established in May 2024 and our purpose is to improve the quality, sustainability and outcomes of NHS services for children in Wales.

We will consider key elements of child health with a view to supporting parents and professionals to deliver high quality care for children in Wales.

Working together with clinical colleagues across all health boards, Welsh Government colleagues, children, young people, and their families, we aim to provide efficient, equitable early interventions and preventative measures to improve and maintain the highest quality of health for all children, giving them the best start and support throughout their early years.

The network will be working collaboratively between the operational service delivery provided by health boards and trusts, and Welsh Government where policy and strategy will be developed.

Our immediate priorities are to establish this new network and to then contribute to the creation of a new Quality Statement for Child Health in Wales. We are also developing our action plan with clear short, medium and long term priorities.

Who are we?



Clinical Lead

Dr Claire Thomas



Network Manager

Alex Hicks



Lead Chief Executive

Alex Howells

Contact us: NHSWE_Child.Health@wales.nhs.uk

Rare Diseases Implementation Network

The Implementation Network for Rare Diseases works to improve the quality, sustainability and outcomes of NHS services for the 200,000+ individuals affected in Wales.

Who are we?



Clinical Lead

Dr Jamie Duckers



Network Manager

Alex Hicks



Network Support Manager

Rhiannon Edwards

Our goal is to enhance health and social care for people impacted by rare diseases in Wales, through implementing the Wales Rare Disease Action Plan. By working together with the community and strategic partners, we want to give world-class, fair accessible and equitable care to everyone.

Our primary objective is to help patients and their families deal with the physical, mental, and emotional challenges of rare diseases. We are working to develop a Digital Rare Care Centre for Wales and to understand the inequalities of care provision for those with rare diseases through good quality data and service mapping.

By building a research positive and patient-centred environment for those living with Rare Diseases in Wales, we will be able to offer better access to life changing services and treatments.

Contact us: nhswhc_rdig@wales.nhs.uk

National Strategic Network for Critical Care, Trauma and Emergency Medicine

The National Strategic Network for Critical Care, Trauma and Emergency Medicine was established in October 2023 and builds on the work of the former Critical Care Network.

Who are we?



Clinical Lead

*Dr Babu
Muthuswamy*



**Network
Manager**

Jo Davies



**Lead Chief
Executive**

Tracey Cooper

Our network covers three defined areas:

Critical Care

We have recently launched our Greener Critical Care Group, designed to drive health board efficiencies resulting in less waste and CO2 reduction. Our first meeting was a great success and we're currently developing a dictionary of ideas. Our current priorities include a refresh of our service specification along with a rewrite of our key performance indicators, and an in-depth review of our website content to include Emergency Medicine and Trauma. We are also reviewing out of hospital cardiac arrests together with our colleagues in the National Strategic Clinical Network for Cardiovascular Conditions, to name but a few.

Trauma

We are currently scoping how we will work with the South Wales Trauma Operational Delivery Network, and the North Wales Trauma Service, which is aligned to NHS England and forms part of the North West Midlands and North Wales Major Trauma Network with access to the major trauma centre in Royal Stoke University Hospital, North Staffordshire.

Emergency Medicine

We are working closely with the Six Goals Programme for Urgent and Emergency Care taking forward the seven priority actions for the current year outlined in the Quality Statement. Together with the Six Goals Programme, we are organising a joint event to take place later this year with the Cabinet Secretary confirmed as our key speaker.

Contact us: NHSWE_CCTEM@wales.nhs.uk

National Strategic Clinical Network for Diabetes

Formed in October 2023, the network has transitioned from the previous All Wales Diabetes Implementation Group.

Who are we?



Clinical Lead

Dr Julia Platts



Network Manager

Joanne Oliver



Lead Chief Executive

Paul Mears

The All-Wales Diabetes Prevention Programme offers professional support to people with prediabetes and gestational diabetes to identify risk factors and make appropriate lifestyle changes through diet, nutrition and physical activity.

We work to provide education to people living with diabetes. In doing this, we aim to reduce the number of hospital admissions, and reduce the impact of future complications related to diabetes. In addition, we want to increase the uptake of the eight essential care processes helping to detect complications early so that timely intervention can take place.

We want to support more people living with diabetes to use technology to manage their condition and to reduce inequalities in accessing that technology. We also work to improve mental health and wellbeing for people living with diabetes through the 'Missing to Mainstream' report and action plan.

By using the Welsh Information Solution for Diabetes Management system, we are supporting the digitalisation of health records across Wales. This also assists in the communication of information between primary and secondary care and strengthening information submitted for national audits.

Data is important to the network. Through our partnership with Diabetes Insight Variation Atlas to harness data to support service improvement in diabetes care, we work to improve outcomes for people living with diabetes across Wales.

For the remission of Type 2 diabetes, we are expanding the pathway, particularly for young people.

We are working to agree Patient Reported Outcome Measures and Patient Reported Experience Measures to support a person-centered care approach to diabetes care across Wales.

We work in partnership with Diabetes UK Cymru and Kidney Research UK to tackle inequalities in South Asian communities in south-east Wales. By examining causes of health inequalities in diabetes care in socioeconomically deprived areas, we can identify solutions and promote equity of access to care.

We conduct external accreditation reviews of inpatient care services and identify areas for improvement via the Royal College of Physicians' Diabetes Care Accreditation Programme to improve inpatient care for people living with diabetes.

We review roles and responsibilities of the diabetes workforce and develop standardised job descriptions for diabetes specialist nurses across Wales.

Our work also links with other teams in the NHS Executive including the Strategic Programme for Mental Health and colleagues in the Cardiovascular, and Musculoskeletal networks.

We also work closely with valued colleagues in the third sector colleagues including Diabetes UK Cymru, Breakthrough T1D (formally JDRF), The Mentor Ring, Kidney Research UK, Kidney Research Wales.

Contact us: AWDIG@wales.nhs.uk

Quality Statement for Diabetes:
www.gov.wales/quality-statement-diabetes-html



National Strategic Clinical Network for Gastrointestinal Conditions

Established in April 2024, we are a new network bringing focus and direction to a range of gastrointestinal conditions including, but not limited to, Inflammatory Bowel Disease (IBD), liver disease and coeliac disease.

Who are we?

Led by Network Manager Victoria Taylor, our immediate priorities are the appointment of a clinical lead and building the network team.

The network has oversight of implementation networks:



**Clinical Lead for
Liver Disease**

Dr Tom Pembroke



**Clinical Lead for
Inflammatory
Bowel Disease**

Dr Clare Tibbatts



**Lead Chief
Executive**

Phil Kloer



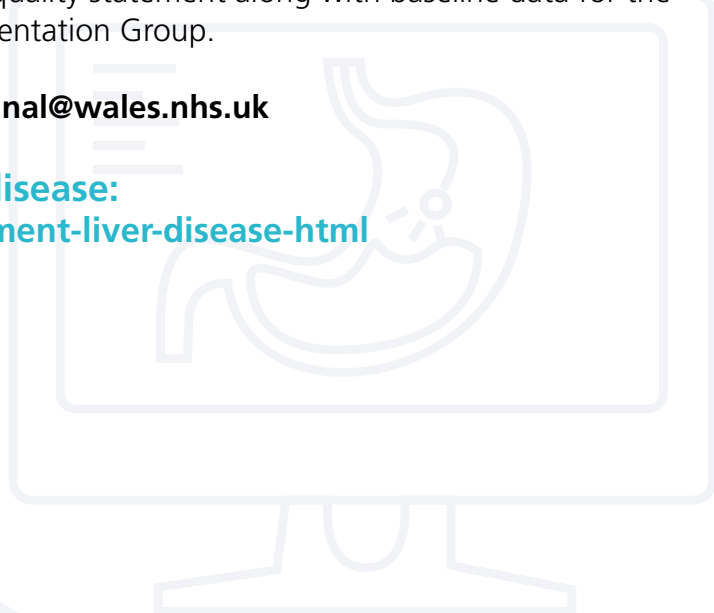
**Network
Manager**

Victoria Taylor

Early achievements so far include a baseline service and workforce survey with health boards for liver disease, developing links across the wider NHS Executive and external stakeholders and producing a draft quality statement along with baseline data for the Inflammatory Bowel Disease Implementation Group.

Contact us: NHSWE_Gastrointestinal@wales.nhs.uk

Quality statement for liver disease:
www.gov.wales/quality-statement-liver-disease-html



National Strategic Clinical Network for Maternity and Neonatal Services

We bring our stakeholders together and support each other to improve the overall safety and quality of maternity and neonatal services and the experiences of families across Wales.

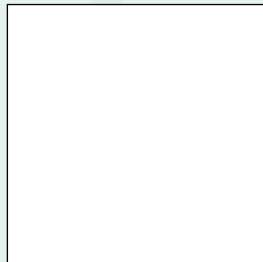
We are driven to improve the outcomes and experiences for all mothers, babies and their families with the knowledge that giving every child the best start in life is crucial to reducing health issues.

Who are we?



Clinical Lead

Dr Jennifer Calvert



Network Manager

Lisa Davies



Lead Chief Executive

Carol Shillabeer

We will shortly be growing our clinical leadership with an assistant clinical lead and will be recruiting additional posts to support the Maternity and Neonatal Support Programme Implementation Network.

Our work builds on the legacy of our predecessor, the Maternity and Neonatal Network. Since the inception of the new network, our key achievements include the substantive appointment of our lead midwife, an agreed list of measures for the maternity dashboard and publication of a suite of PERIPrem Cymru parent resources.

Work is currently underway on the development of a service specification for maternity and neonatal services with the workplan of the network falling into two distinct parts: the strategic workplan and the Maternity and Neonatal Safety Support Programme (MatNeo SSP) Implementation Network workplan.

In addition to our work with our families and maternity and neonatal services, we also support the following:

- Welsh Government to seek the views of staff and service users on maternity and neonatal Quality Statement and the development of the Patient Engagement Framework.
- Public Health Wales/Antenatal Screening Wales routine abdominal circumference measurement implementation group.
- Public Health Wales Reducing Smoking in Pregnancy Workstream 1 and 2.
- HEIW with development of the strategic perinatal workforce plan
- NHS Wales Joint Commissioning Committee with the second phase of the Cot Configuration work and the ongoing clinical model for neonatal transport across south Wales.
- DHCW with the Digital Maternity Cymru programme.

Contact us: NHSWE_Maternity.Neonatal@wales.nhs.uk



National Strategic Clinical Network for Musculoskeletal (MSK) Conditions

Established in May 2024, the network has an ambitious vision to reduce the impact of MSK conditions on the population of Wales, with the mission of enabling people with MSK conditions to grow well, live well, work well and age well.

Whilst many MSK conditions can be short term and self-limiting, others are persistent and life changing. They can affect anyone in society regardless of age, gender or race and have a significant impact on health, well-being, and quality of life. MSK conditions are often hidden and unpredictable, with symptoms and disease processes that vary significantly.

Who are we?



Clinical Lead

Robert Letchford



Network Manager

Sarah McAllister



Lead Executive

Dom Hurford

Our strategy is built upon the overarching ethos of co-production, collaboration and integration across the multi-professional team, and the principles of personalised care, partnership working, prevention, population health and productivity and performance.

The network will support local and regional multi-professional teams to be creative and opportunistic with efforts aligned to the wider health and care strategy. They will shift upstream and deliver on pathways of care aligned to the quality statement, to reduce the burden of disease and narrow inequalities.

Further detail will be developed and iterated in live documents hosted on the MSK Strategic Clinical Network webpage.

Contact us: NHSWE_Musculoskeletal@wales.nhs.uk

Quality statement for Musculoskeletal Health:
www.gov.wales/quality-statement-musculoskeletal-health-html

National Strategic Clinical Network for Neurological Conditions

Work is underway to establish the Neurological Conditions Network, formulating priorities in line with Welsh Government Quality Statement for Neurological Conditions. We are building on the work of the former Neurological Conditions Implementation Group and our new Clinical Lead and Network Support Manager have been in post since April 2024.

Who are we?



Clinical Lead

Professor Rob Powell



Network Manager

Joanne Oliver



Lead Executive

Chris Stockport

We work to improve care and services for people with neurological conditions in Wales. We bring together health boards, the third sector, primary care, secondary care, government, and managers to oversee implementation of the Quality Statement for Neurological Conditions and support health boards and partners to deliver their local plans.

Neurological conditions are caused by damage to the nervous system as a result of illness or injury. There are an estimated 100,000 people living with a neurological condition in Wales, and around 2,500 new diagnoses every year.

There are more than 250 recognised neurological conditions. The most common conditions include multiple sclerosis, motor neurone disease, epilepsy, Parkinson's disease, muscular dystrophy, and Acquired Brain Injury as well as Functional Neurological Disorders.

Our work is guided by input from our stakeholders and we have recently:

- Designed and gathered valuable data from a National Neurological Service Mapping survey
- Created our communication plan, which will include hosting stakeholder engagement events in both north and south Wales.
- Updated our network internet pages and are producing regular newsletters.

We have submitted our Network Planning Document to include Short (one year), Mid (three year) and Long (five year) plans. We will analyse and share a 'top level' survey of neurological services in each health board and begin to form a Leadership Group, Clinical Reference Group and Clinical Advisory Group. We will be using our stakeholder meetings to continue to engage widely with the neurological community in Wales to establish agreed national priorities.

Our network has facilitated a Neurological Rehabilitation Model Workshop with support from Q Lab Cymru and guided by Welsh Government, with the aim of agreeing on an All-Wales Neuro rehab model, such as SameYou NROL, ABUHB Recovery College or a combination of both.

Contact us: NHSWE_neurological@wales.nhs.uk

Quality Statement for neurological conditions:
www.gov.wales/quality-statement-neurological-conditions-html



National Programme for Palliative and End of Life Care

The programme offers national leadership and support to health boards and commissioned services, driving forward Welsh Government's vision for palliative and end-of-life care in Wales.

We are dedicated to ensuring that every individual in Wales receives high-quality, compassionate palliative and end-of-life care tailored to their unique needs and preferences.

By fostering collaboration among healthcare professionals and prioritising what matters most to each person, we aim to integrate evidence-based practices and promote continuous improvement.

Our goal is to provide safe, timely, effective, and equitable care for everyone, enabling individuals to spend their final days in their preferred setting, whether that is at home, in a hospital, or in a hospice. We strive to ensure access to high-quality care across Wales, regardless of one's location, underlying disease, or disability.

Who are we?



**National Clinical
Lead**

Dr Idris Baker



**National Strategic
Programme Lead**

Lynda Kenway



**Lead Chief
Executive**

Vacant

Our work is informed by the **Quality Statement for Palliative and End of Life Care** and we are working with stakeholders to implement and deliver this work.

Working with our stakeholders, our efforts this year are focused on the following:

- Developing the All-Wales PEO LC service specification
- Creating a national hospice commissioning framework in collaboration with the Joint Commissioning Committee (JCC)
- Production of a Competency Framework for Palliative and End of Life Care, alongside work to improve and build on the data that we capture to improve service user experience and outcomes and inform service provision and delivery
- Work is also underway on implementing the national bereavement framework for the delivery of bereavement care in Wales and to develop key pathways focussing on children and young people and pregnancy and baby loss to promote a consistent approach for accessing bereavement support across Wales.

We are currently working to produce the final phase three recommendations for the Welsh Government which are due in January 2025.

Contact us: NHSWE_National.PEO LC.Programme@wales.nhs.uk

Quality Statement for palliative and end of life care:
www.gov.wales/quality-statement-palliative-and-end-life-care-wales-html



National Strategic Clinical Network for Respiratory Conditions

In October 2023, the Respiratory Health Implementation Group became the new National Strategic Clinical Network or Respiratory Conditions.

Who are we?



Clinical Lead

*Dr Anthony
Gibson*



Network Manager

Joanne Oliver



**Lead Chief
Executive**

Richard Evans

Our network aims to improve the quality, safety, sustainability, and outcomes of NHS Services within respiratory care, positioned between operational service delivery in health boards and the formulation of policy and strategy in Welsh Government. Our work is guided by the Quality Statement for Respiratory Disease.

Our primary focus is to provide strategic direction for respiratory care across Wales creating opportunities to improve health outcomes and deliver better care for the population of Wales. Effective diagnosis, management, and treatment of respiratory disease in both adults, children and young people will be our focus and requires us to take a whole system approach.

We are keen to collaborate with our key stakeholders and we will establish a Leadership Group, Clinical Reference Group and, together with professional Clinical Advisory Groups, will agree focused priorities and ensure that our patients' voices are heard and provide our third sector colleagues a platform to help us to shape the future delivery of services. We are hosting stakeholder engagement events in both north and south Wales, updating our network internet pages, and writing regular newsletters.

One in twelve adults in Wales reports a longstanding respiratory illness and Wales has a higher rate of asthma prevalence than the European average. Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, around 15-16% of all deaths were due to respiratory disease and in 2019 Wales had the highest avoidable mortality rate in Great Britain for diseases of the respiratory system. Respiratory medicine costs NHS Wales more than £400 million per year.

Respiratory conditions have a significant impact on people's lives. There is a need for better routine chronic lung condition management, particularly the delivery of annual reviews and spirometry. It is important NHS services re-establish and improve routine care processes for people with chronic lung conditions. This will improve individual disease control, reduce complications, and avoid higher levels of healthcare demand.

Contact us: NHSWE_Respiratory@wales.nhs.uk

**Quality statement for respiratory disease:
www.gov.wales/quality-statement-respiratory-disease-html**



National Strategic Clinical Network for Women's Health

The new Women's Health Strategic Network is a clinically led, strategic group to improve the quality, sustainability and outcomes of NHS services for women in Wales.

We became operational in May 2024 and will be working collaboratively between the operational service delivery provided by health boards and trusts, and Welsh Government where policy and strategy will be developed.

Our immediate priorities are the development of the Women's Health Plan for NHS Wales, to mobilise the new Network for Women's Health and to continue the work to support and inform young people around menstrual health - **Bloody Brilliant/Mislif Fi**

Who are we?



Clinical Lead

Dr Helen Munro



**Network
Manager**

Bethan Hawkes



**Lead Chief
Executive**

Helen Thomas

Contact us: NHSWE_Womens.Health@wales.nhs.uk

Quality statement for women and girls' health:
www.gov.wales/quality-statement-women-and-girls-health-html









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www.executive.nhs.wales

