

## **Sussex and East Surrey STP Update - December 2017**

### **Reducing unwarranted variation in musculoskeletal care**

Over 60 senior clinicians and other leaders attended the Sussex and East Surrey STP MSK workshop earlier this month to explore local data and hear from Professor Tim Briggs, National Director for Clinical Quality and Efficiency.

Professor Briggs led the development of the Getting It Right First Time (GIRFT) methodology to improve the quality of care by reducing unwarranted variations, bringing efficiencies and improving patient outcomes. Focused initially on orthopaedics, GIRFT is now being rolled out nationally across all specialties.

Mr Sandeep Chauhan, STP clinical lead for MSK GIRFT, presented the local data and Dr Karen Eastman described the local Rightcare MSK opportunities. Dr Shivam Natarajan set out the MSK protocols developed locally through the clinically effective commissioning programme.

The STP clinical board has prioritised tackling unwarranted variation as a key workstream. It will be leading the implementation of the local and national MSK recommendations and using the evidence to drive higher quality care, improving outcomes and value for money.

### **CCGs adopt standardised referral policies**

The CCGs in Sussex have adopted the first 12 standardised policies developed through the clinically effective commissioning programme. Covering a range of tests and treatments - including tonsillectomies, gallstones and trigger finger – the standardisation so far has only required minor changes to some CCGs' existing policies, or the introduction of policies where they did not exist before.

The CCGs are now looking at areas where there are more significant differences between existing policies. The clinically-led programme, overseen by the STP clinical board, will ensure that services offered to patients meet the latest guidelines from national experts and deliver value for money for the NHS budget.

While standardising many of the criteria will be straightforward, there will need to be more difficult discussions where the evidence of positive outcomes for a patient's health and wellbeing and value for money is not clear-cut. Patients and the public are being engaged in this process over the coming months.

### **Executive team appointed for Central Sussex Commissioning Alliance**

The executive team has been appointed for the Central Sussex Commissioning Alliance, which will see the CCGs for Brighton and Hove, High Weald

Lewes Havens, Crawley and Horsham and Mid Sussex working together with one leadership team and operating plan.

The appointments include:

- Adam Doyle, Accountable Officer for the four CCGs
- Geraldine Hoban, Managing Director (North)
- Wendy Carberry, Managing Director (South)
- Mark Baker, Strategic Director of Finance
- Glynn Dodd, Programme Director for Commissioning Reform
- Terry Willows, Director of Corporate Affairs

The appointments have been approved by NHS England and will take effect from 2 January 2018. The team will be joined by Allison Cannon and Sarah Valentine who are already working across all eight CCGs in the STP as Chief Nurse and Director of Contracting and Performance respectively.

The executive will act as a single point of leadership for the four CCGs but the organisations are not merging and each governing body will remain accountable for healthcare commissioning for local people. Working together will enable the CCGs to better share expertise and resources, streamline processes and focus on transforming services.

### **Local Workforce Action Board sets out priorities**

The Local Workforce Action Board (LWAB) brings together HR and workforce leads from all sectors of health and social care, education and training providers and Health Education England. It has developed a statement of intent, setting out its priorities for supporting the STP, including a number of workstreams to address the most pressing workforce needs.

An important focus is on supporting more integrated models of care. One key development already underway is to establish a system-wide approach to developing the support workforce, such as unregistered nurses and care workers, across a number of patient pathways. This will look at enhanced roles and training and development for staff across primary, secondary, community and social care to improve patient care and efficiency.

### **Reference group to strengthen public and patient engagement**

A patient and public engagement reference group is being established to strengthen engagement across the STP. Building on the strong engagement already carried out in some aspects of the partnership, for example the mental health workstream and in some local areas, the group will help to shape aligned STP engagement plans across the footprint.

Membership is expected to include public and patient representatives, lay

members, the voluntary and community sector and Healthwatch. The group will help to ensure that engagement plans meet the needs of local communities, hard to reach groups and those who experience health inequalities.