

Public Patient Engagement Policy

Introduction

The West Yorkshire Critical Care and Major Trauma Networks and the South Yorkshire Critical Care Network (Networks) are committed to seeking views of patients, carers, family members and staff in the development of services. In order to achieve this the Networks will engage and involve patients, carers, and members of the public where relevant. The Network will ensure that its involvement processes are inclusive as possible to embrace a diverse population.

Background

NHS England Service Specification for Major Trauma Clinical Networks¹ and Critical Care Networks² for 2024 sets out the requirements for Clinical Networks which are:

- There is an agreed plan for PPV engagement

The Networks acknowledge there are difficulties in engaging with patients and families within the respective patient groups and previously several approaches have been tried to better engagement with the patients but none have provided longevity. However the Networks understand the importance of involving patients, carers, and families to further develop services and ensure views and opinions are factored into any future developments.

To achieve the patient involvement the Networks have had to look at other ways they can reach the patient cohorts and acknowledge that each Trust within the Network geographical footprint have numerous patient groups already established and it would make sense to use these resources to ensure the patient voice is included in relevant work programmes that Network is undertaking.

Key Principles

The Networks approach to public patient engagement is based on the following principles

- Engage with Trusts within the Network geographical to identify any interested patient(s) who would like the opportunity to contribute to the Networks workplan or programme
- Use existing patient forums to seek views on relevant pieces of work that the Networks are undertaking, linking with charity sector, Trusts own established patient forums, critical care patient forums etc

¹ NHS England Service Specification 2024 Major Trauma Clinical Networks [Major Trauma Clinical Network Specification \(england.nhs.uk\)](https://www.england.nhs.uk/publication/major-trauma-clinical-network-specification/)

² NHS England Service Specification 2024 Adult Critical Care Clinical Networks [Adult Critical Care Clinical Network Specification \(england.nhs.uk\)](https://www.england.nhs.uk/publication/adult-critical-care-clinical-network-specification/)



- Prior to any service development or project starting, ensure consideration has been given on seeking patient views or engagement
- Provide opportunities for patients, carers and families to share their opinions, this can be done through specific pieces of work, inviting to meetings, asking for comments and views on any documentation the Networks are designing

The Networks are committed to working with service users, patients, carers, and families in the development of services with the shared purpose of improving patient care and outcomes. The following list is non exhaustive but outlines ways in which the Network will share these opportunities:

- Through respective Network Boards
- Network websites
- Network newsletters
- Communicating opportunities through sharing emails
- Link in with patient groups
- Through working collaboratively with the Day One Trauma Support Charity for peer review support
- Through Network subgroups and task and finish groups
- Through education events and conferences

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Written	June 2024
Review Date	June 2029
Version	Version 1.0