

Cystic Fibrosis our focus

South East Scotland adult CF service

The Edinburgh adult CF centre provides care for adults with cystic fibrosis managed at Western General Hospital in Edinburgh, Ninewells Hospital in Dundee, Raigmore Hospital in Inverness, and Dumfries & Galloway Royal Infirmary. The very enthusiastic, skilled multidisciplinary team (MDT) provides excellent care with good outcomes, despite the logistical challenges posed by the large geographical area. However several parts of the MDT are under-resourced, which requires urgent attention.

Areas of excellence identified by service users included the overall care of the CF team, which feels like family, the availability of staff members, who are all supportive, and the cross-infection measures for outpatients. Areas for improvement included the food, car parking facilities and the inconsistent cleaning of patient side rooms on the ward.

The panel identified the experienced MDT and the excellent care it provides in spite of challenging geographical circumstances, as an area of good practice, alongside the opportunities for patients to take part in cutting-edge research and the MDT's excellent links with the transplant team in Newcastle.

Key recommendations include an urgent review of staffing levels within the MDT, in particular medical, specialist nursing, physiotherapy, psychology and pharmacy staffing, and the urgent introduction of CF social worker staffing, which is lacking in all four hospitals.