

Cystic Fibrosis our focus

The Sheffield Children's NHS Foundation Trust delivers the majority of care for the 150 children and young people receiving multidisciplinary cystic fibrosis (CF) care from the South Yorkshire and North Lincolnshire Paediatric CF network. The cohesive multidisciplinary team (MDT) at Sheffield provides an excellent foundation for delivery of care.

Other hospitals in the area where outpatient and inpatient activity takes place include Barnsley, Doncaster, Rotherham, Scunthorpe and Grimsby.

Good practice examples include close working with all members of the extended MDT, in particular the microbiologist and psychologists, and the development of pre-prepared IV antibiotics and delivery via homecare. The panel was impressed with the MDT's participation in CF Week, which reflected the dedication of its members and their empathy for their patients.

Key recommendations include an urgent review of consultant time and shortfall of appropriate cover, rationalising service provision among shared care hospitals to improve care for those with less access to the full MDT, and reviewing the use of the CF Unit space for non CF-related activities. There is also a need to address physiotherapy staffing and increase the existing physiotherapy time. The provision of physiotherapy in network centres is often substandard.

Further areas of consideration include reviewing CF bed allocation, particularly to ease provision for patients from outside Sheffield requiring admission to Sheffield, and increasing the MDT provision to support the work of the shared care clinics.

Formal pathways of care for the provision of joint CF/diabetes clinics need development to ensure consistency of care across the network. A high-quality pharmacy service is provided, but under-staffed.

The new building work at Sheffield will address the shortfall in en suite accommodation, and should establish facilities for exercising patients.

User feedback identified the supportive CF team, the cleanliness of the outpatients facility and the accessibility of advice and appointments as areas of excellence. Areas for improvement were segregation, car parking facilities and catering provision.