

Cystic Fibrosis our focus

University Hospital South Manchester NHS Trust – Wythenshawe Hospital

The Manchester Adult Cystic Fibrosis Centre at Wythenshawe Hospital has an international reputation as a centre of clinical excellence. It serves 420 adults, and has a history of innovative service development. Due to the growing number of adults with cystic fibrosis and the increasing complexity of care required by an aging population, the service has reached capacity. The ward also has a large number of high dependency patients.

Areas of excellence identified by service users included the accessible, communicative and supportive CF team, the inpatient catering, with its own chef, and the experience and convenience of the unit's own pharmacy service, which delivers to the patients in their rooms.

Users identified inpatient admission times, which could be up to eight weeks despite the unit's 22 beds, and the lengthy outpatient waiting times, in a communal waiting area, as aspects for improvement.

The review panel cited the highly expert multidisciplinary team, the enviable inpatient and outpatient facilities and the service's track record in training, research and guideline development, as good practice examples.

Key recommendations included implementing a strategy to develop a new adult service in the region, and the urgent need to review staffing and skill mix on the ward to address the immediate capacity issues and meet recommended staffing levels.