

# **Burn Care Services for Adults and Children**

## **Plymouth Health Overview and Scrutiny Panel**

**27<sup>th</sup> January 2010**



**Plymouth**



**South West Specialised Commissioning Group  
South Central Specialised Commissioning Group**



**Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru  
Welsh Assembly Government**

# The South West UK Burn Care Network

- Developed as an outcome of the National Burn Care Review 2001
- Group of health professionals, managers and organisations working together
- Accountable to the South West and South Central Specialised Commissioning Groups and Health Commission Wales (to be succeeded by Welsh Health Specialised Services Committee)
- Providing burn care services to a population of 10 million people, including patients and their families

# Overview of burn care proposals

- The service improvement proposals for burn care presented here do not involve major change for existing services and will:
  - Ensure burn care services comply with National Burn Care Standards
  - Ensure that patients are treated by the service best able to meet their needs
  - Improve clinical outcomes and survival rates over time
  - Establish a new specialised burn service for people in Devon and Cornwall
  - Over time, develop models for rehabilitation out reach and long term care that will enable people to be treated closer to home

# What is a Burn Injury?

- A burn is a type of injury that may be caused by heat, cold, electricity, chemicals, light radiation or friction.
- Burn injuries vary in terms of severity, tissue affected and complications arising from the injury.
- Burn injuries range from the most minor dealt with at a local hospital to the most severe requiring a specialised burn care service.

## Care and treatment of burn injuries involves

- Multi-disciplinary team working
- Repeated operations including skin grafts and reconstructive surgery
- Periods of high dependency and intensive care
- Long rehabilitation periods
- Need for long term support

## How many complex burns are there?

- Fortunately the number of very serious burn injuries is small and reducing over time
- In the South West UK Burn Care Network between January 2006 and December 2008 (3 years) there were:
  - 28 Complex Injuries - Adults (<5 Plymouth PCT)
  - 9 Complex Injuries – Children (<5 Plymouth PCT)

# Why did we review services for Burn Injury?

- The National Burn Care review concluded that there were shortcomings in the provision of burn care with wide variation between services in terms of facilities, staffing workload, organisation and the comprehensiveness of services offered.
- The report made many recommendations about standards for facilities, staffing and recommended different levels of burn care should be established across each region to ensure patients with serious injuries received expert care.
- Children and adults should be cared for in separately staffed, discrete wards catering for burn injured patients (in line with a number of strategic recommendations).
- Implementation should be taken forward by Burns Networks

# The Model of Service

- The National Burn Care Review of 2001 recommended that following initial assessment of injury, specialised burn care service should be delivered through three levels of care:
  - Burns facilities to treat less serious injuries
  - Burns units for moderate and severe injuries
  - Burns centres to treat the most complex injuries.



# Current burn care service providers

- Services for adults
  - Bristol – Frenchay Hospital
  - Salisbury District General Hospital
  - Swansea – Morriston Hospital
- Services for Children
  - Bristol – Frenchay Hospital and for children a joint delivery of service with Paediatric Intensive Care Unit at University Hospitals Bristol NHS Foundation Trust (UBHFT)
  - Salisbury – Salisbury District General Hospital
  - Swansea – Morriston Hospital
- Plymouth currently provides some burn care on an informal basis but has not been a formally established burn care service to date.

## How have the commissioners and the Network undertaken this designation?

- Assessed each provider against the Burn care standards
- Undertaken patient, public, staff, carers and families engagement
- Undertaken specific pieces of work (access study, outcomes review, activity analysis and financial impact)
- Involved external clinical expertise and advisors

# Proposals for burn care designation

Provider	Adults	Children
Morrison Hospital Swansea	Centre	Facility/Unit
Frenchay Hospital, Bristol (working jointly with Bristol Children's Hospital for children's services until planned transfer of all specialised children's services to Bristol Children's Hospital)	Facility/Unit	Centre
Salisbury District General Hospital	Facility/Unit	Facility/ Unit
Derriford Hospital, Plymouth	Facility	Facility

# Rationale for decision making

- Adults - We have 3 well developed services staffed by dedicated teams that are comparable in many ways but Swansea was strongest in terms of physical resources and layout of related service elements. They were also strong on other areas such as care pathway management, audit and other governance
- Children – We have 3 good services staffed by dedicated teams. However, co-location of the service with Paediatric Intensive Care is a key standard and only Bristol has a service close to compliance with this standard and plans to be fully compliant over time. Bristol also has a well established retrieval team.

## Benefits from the proposed improvements summary

- Assurance of compliance with standards and pathways that will ensure patients are treated by the service best able to meet their needs
- Improved access to patients through a new burns Facility in Plymouth
- Better support for patients and families as a result of the information we have gathered
- Ability to focus on further improving services through the work of the Network including staff training, workforce planning and audit

# Proposed Next Steps

- Commence service improvement/development work through the South West UK Burn Care Network
- Work with Primary Care Trusts in England and Welsh Health Specialised Services Committee in Wales to formalise current contractual arrangements including service, costs and other terms and conditions with each provider for contracts to commence April 2010



# Thank-you

- Any questions?
- Any feedback?



South West Specialised Commissioning Group