

Enhancing the Gloucestershire Stroke Pathway

Update on the Community Stroke
Rehabilitation Unit

May 2019

#glosSTP

Background

- Health and Overview Committee received a presentation in July 2018 detailing a proposal to enhance the Gloucestershire Stroke Care Pathway
- In particular the enhanced pathway included the provision of a Community Stroke Rehabilitation Unit for the County
- This was in response to a review of the county's rehabilitation services which highlighted that a change was needed for the county to provide consistent and high quality rehabilitation to improve patient outcomes
- One area identified as having significant opportunity for improvement was stroke
- The national audit that we participate in Sentinel Stroke National Audit Programme (SSNAP) showed that there was opportunity to improve what we currently do and benefit the whole pathway.

Engagement Process and Outcomes

- In June and July 2018, a range of engagement activity was undertaken to gather feedback from local people with lived experience of local stroke services
- Predominately Positive about the Proposal

Right Care at the
Right Time, in the
Right Place 7 days
a week

Family would
be able to be
more involved
in therapy

Gives the
patient a
feeling of
“moving on”
and progress

Being able to
access the
outside is so
important

It will help to
improve staff
morale and
recruitment

It's obvious –
specialist care
at a specialist
location...
Families cope

Engagement Process and Outcomes

- Additional engagement sessions held with the Vale League of Friends and local GP patient participation groups in relation to perceived change in beds

Concerns Identified

- Transport issues for visitors
- Sufficient inpatient beds for general needs in the locality
- Impact on other outpatient services offered in the hospital

Mitigating Actions

- Shared bed modelling process and outcome
- Confirmed Open visiting hours
- Reviewed and monitoring transport links
- Provision of technological solutions to ensure patients can remain in touch with family and friends
- Confirmed ongoing provision of MSK physiotherapy at the Vale Hospital

Service Change Approved in August 2018

- Creation of a 14 bedded community specialist stroke rehabilitation unit based at The Vale Community Hospital as part of a comprehensive countywide stroke service will provide the best chance of recovery for the people of Gloucestershire



Expected Benefits

➤ New Unit

- Intensive specialist therapy available 7 days/ week.
- Single room en-suite accommodation.
- Rehab gym, kitchen, social space and outdoor facilities.
- Boosts morale for patients, carers and family
- Seamless links into the countywide Early Supported Discharge Team.

➤ GRH

- Improved availability of beds on the specialist ward for all new stroke patients.
- Increased time with specialist therapists.
- Reduction in extended stays in a medicalised environment

Overall an improvement in our performance measured against national audit standards

Progress Update

- The Unit opened on the 4th February 2019
- 39 admissions from opening to 28th April 2019
- 25 discharges, typical length of stay is 22-23 days
- 80% discharges directly home
- Bed Occupancy was 93% in first 2 weeks now 97%
- Overall Bed Occupancy at the Vale is 95%
- Both Community and Acute team work in tandem, single consultant oversight across both units
- Seamless care pathway
- Enhanced therapy across both sites
- 100% improvement in patient Activity of Daily Living (ADL) score as determined using the Barthel measurement tool
- Positive patient feedback

Experiences of the Clinicians

“ I am thrilled to have been given this opportunity to be so closely involved in setting up the stroke service. The team have shown real passion and dedication in delivering this new service.”

“ Everyone works so collaboratively and this has been reflected in the supportive and compassionate personalities of our team members.”

“I’ve been really impressed how well the whole Multi-disciplinary team are working together in an integrated way. There is a strong bond already between existing and new staff.”

“It’s a lovely environment to work in, the staff are very caring to patients and have been very engaging, interactive, eager to learn and deliver high quality stroke rehabilitation.”

Experiences of the Patient

Patient Story 1: Keith

Acute Unit, Gloucestershire Royal Hospital and Early Support
Discharge at home

“stunned to meet Joanne and Dawn ... made me feel I had challenges I could resolve”

“everyone I came into contact with was as good as I would have wanted them to be”



Patient Story 2: Sabrina

The Vale, Community Hospital Stroke Rehabilitation

“I am able to have more regular therapy at The Vale, this is having an impact on my ability to become more independent”

“having my own bathroom is such a relief”

“It is so quiet and peaceful at The Vale”

Next Steps

- Formal service review scheduled for September 2019; will include previous areas of concern identified
- Analysis of SSNAP outcomes when available as a measure of improvement
- Continue review and transformation of Stroke care pathway – Focus on out of Hospital element