

North Yorkshire Clinical Commissioning Group

Harrogate Stroke Services - Engagement Event

Thursday 11 November 2021 17.30 – 19.30

Video Conference: Zoom

Chair: Ashley Green, Chief Executive Officer, Healthwatch North Yorkshire

Presenters and panel members:

Dr Charles Parker - Chair of NYCCG

Dr Bruce Willoughby - GP Clinical Lead for Integrated/Community Care, NYCCG

Pam Bagot - Principal Physiotherapist Neuro, Stroke & Amputees – Harrogate & District NHS Foundation Trust

Dr Rayessa - Clinical Lead Integrated Stroke Delivery Network, Humber Coast & Vale

Michael Keeling - Lead Stroke Nurse, York and Scarborough Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

Matthew Spencer - Lead Clinical Pathways Manager Clinical Directorate, Yorkshire Ambulance Service NHS Trust

Vicky Draper - Team Leader for Community Stroke – Harrogate & District NHS Foundation Trust

Samantha Jones - Associate Director NE & Yorkshire. Stroke Association North East and Yorkshire

Bridget Read - Engagement Manager, NYCCG

Alex Flowers - Communication & Engagement Officer, NYCCG

	<p>Attendance 10 members of the public registered to attend the event via Eventbrite – a total of 8 members attended virtually.</p>	
	<p>A presentation was delivered which covered</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ What we already know – through patient feedback ➤ Background – national drivers and the local context ➤ The patient journey in more detail <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GP - Recognising the signs of stroke – prevention and good health • Ambulance - “This is how we get you to hospital” • Hospital - “This is how we will treat you” – immediate response at Hyper Acute Stroke Unit to repatriation • Rehabilitation and the role of the Community Rehabilitation Team ➤ The National Stroke Association – "Life after stroke" ➤ A patient experience 	

Question & Answer Session

Question: Have there been any discussions about using anything other than FAST for the general public – it is easy to remember and communicate but you indicate it may miss 25% of strokes?

Answer: *There is a balance to be had between the simplicity of the message on the one hand and covering all potential strokes on the other?*

Question: Why can't York do thrombectomy?

Answer: *If the patient requires a thrombectomy, they will be conveyed to Hull or Leeds, there is no thrombectomy service in York. It is a service which is only available in large centres.*

There are currently not enough trained doctors, interventional Neuro-Radiologists to be able to provide a 24/7 service in all areas. Specialist neuroscience centres where thrombectomy procedures usually happen are not evenly spread out across the UK.

It is a national ambition to expand access to thrombectomy services to 24/7. This is a specialist service provided at tertiary centres. Humber Coast and Vale Stroke Network is working in collaboration with neighbouring stroke services in this regard. Locally - we are establishing a subgroup of the stroke network to promote/ support access to these services.

Question: Are patient's relatives invited to the multidisciplinary team meeting that take place whilst in hospital?

Answer: *No, family and carers are invited to the Goal Planning Meetings instead – which includes plans for rehabilitation and help and support which are given to the patients and their relatives.*

All patients are monitored for six months following a stroke.

Question: Is there any signposting to non-stroke specific classes e.g. ballroom, swimming, rambles etc.

Answer: *Yes, there is Living Well project which signposts into various groups, social prescribing and Harrogate Borough Council run healthy lifestyle classes and lots of information for other classes and organisations. Stroke can be very traumatic therefore it is important to reassure patients and their families. More information is available from the Stroke Association web site.*

Question: Have clinicians seen evidence of people with stroke symptoms put off seeking help because of fears about COVID.

Answer: *During the first wave we had approximately a 30% reduction in number of strokes presenting in hospital.*

Question: How many stroke support groups in North Yorkshire?

Answer: *Due to COVID we have lost a few groups and the pandemic has hit the voluntary sector hard. Currently there are two groups in North Yorkshire and the National Stroke Association, engagement team are currently looking at how this can be improved.*

	<p>Question: Of all the possible lifestyle changes - is there any evidence re which is most beneficial either prevention or post stroke?</p> <p>Answer: <i>Our recent experience has shown that our young strokes are men in their 50s, non-smokers but in high pressured jobs and with undiagnosed high blood pressure. A key prevention message is to stop smoking.</i></p>	
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