Commissioning of gynaecological cancer services in England

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East Kent Gynaecological Oncology Centre, UK
Hon. Senior Lecturer
University College London

Chair: National Cancer Intelligence Network Gynaecology Clinical Reference Group
NHS Commissioning Board - now NHS England

- Established April 2013
- 4 regions of the NHS CB
  - NHS North, Midlands and East, South, London

- Each region contains Local Area Teams (LATs)
  - 27 LATs nationally divided across the regions
  - 10 of the 27 LATs will lead on specialised commissioning
Local Area Teams

- core function of the LAT leading on specialised services is operational delivery and contracting
- to improve contracting process & achieve economies of scale, LATs will be provided with nationally developed contract products:
  - service specifications
  - service policies
  - quality standards
  - CQUINs (Commissioning for Quality & Innovation).
Strategic Clinical Networks

- Cancer
- Cardiovascular disease (including cardiac, stroke, diabetes and renal disease)
- Maternity and children’s services
- Mental health, dementia and neurological conditions
NHS Commissioning Board – NHS England

**CRGs – Clinical Reference Groups**

- 74 CRGs
- Each CRG is within one of 5 ‘Programmes of Care’
  - Internal Medicine
  - Cancer and Blood
  - Mental Health
  - Trauma
  - Women and Children
Complex Gynaecological Services CRG

❖ Chair – Dr Tony Smith (Urogynaecologist)
❖ The following service specifications have been prepared by the CRG:
  ❖ Reconstructive Surgery Service for Adolescents with Congenital Malformation of the Female Genital Tract
  ❖ Complex Gynaecology Severe Endometriosis
  ❖ Complex Gynaecology Urogenital Anorectal Conditions
  ❖ Complex Gynaecology Congenital Gynaecological Anomalies
  ❖ Complex Gynaecology Recurrent Prolapse and Urinary Incontinence
  ❖ Complex Gynaecology Urinary Fistulae
  ❖ Cancer – Gynaecological
  ❖ Choriocarcinoma service (All Ages)
Gynae Onc Representation on CRG

- Member of CRG from each senate
- 12 senates
Gynae Onc Representation on CRG

- Member of CRG from each senate
  - Des Barton
  - Rick Clayton
  - Barnaby Rufford
  - Michael Seckl

- Stakeholders
  - Janos Balega
  - Andy Nordin
  - Target Ovarian Cancer
BGCS
Commissioning Subgroup Mk1

BGCS COUNCIL

OFFICER (NON-VOTING)

NHS ENGLAND
COMPLEX GYNAE CRG

RICK CLAYTON
BARNABY RUFFORD
DES BARTON
MICHAEL SECKL

NIGEL ACHESON
ROB GORNALL

NHS ENGLAND
CLINICAL LEADERSHIP

ANDY NORDIN (CHAIR)

NCIN
encourage regular dialogue between commissioners, the NCIN/NSSG, users and the BGCS

share relevant expertise, experience and views to ensure that the management of gynaecological cancer is reasonably represented in the commissioning process

monitor and document changes in the commissioning process

proactively suggest and advise commissioning decisions in collaboration with the BGCS Officers and the BGCS Council

provide commissioning guidance to the Society for consultation and scrutiny

advise NHS England regarding tariffs for gynaecological oncology services
“further developments”

- Sept 4 meeting
- **James Palmer**
  
  *NHS England lead for specialist commissioning*

- Raj Naik (BGCS)
- Jonathan Ledermann (NCRI)
- Annwen Jones (TOC)
- Robert Music (Jo’s Trust)
- Andy Nordin (NCIN / BGCS commissioning gp)
“further developments”

- “no prospect” for gynae oncology NHS England Commissioning CRG

- BGCS commissioning group
  - “authorised” to develop commissioning specifications for Complex Gynae Services CRG
  - commitment to develop disease-specific specifications for 4 main disease sites
    - yet to be ratified by NHS England

- expanded to reflect NHS England CRGs
  - breadth of gynae oncology community including users & charity sector
### BGCS Commissioning Subgroup Mk2

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Operating Framework

- BGCS commissioning group to offer commissioning specifications & clinical access policies to NHS England Complex Gynaecological Services CRG

- developed by BGCS commissioning group after collaboration & consultation with BGCS membership & wider gynae oncology community

- update the current generic NHS England Gynae CRG commissioning service specification with disease-specific specifications, based on:
  - Improving Outcomes Guidance 1999
  - NICE
  - Peer Review measures
  - Deliverable NCIN outcome indicators
Operating Framework: 
*service development & innovation*

default = status quo

Evidence paper to propose change:
- Peer Review Publications
- NCIN data – potential for tailored data analysis
- Peer Review
- Service Profiles, survival data

- *basis for broad consultation*
  - NCIN Clinical Leads Group, BGCS conference, etc
Parameters: potential areas for review

SERVICE CONFIGURATION
- Number & size of centres
- Specialisation within centres
- Role of cancer units / diagnostic localities

- Generic guidance only – exclude review of specific local services
Parameters: potential areas for review

PATHWAY CONFIGURATION

- Innovation
- Supra-regional pathways
- Limitation of service providers
  - clinical access policy
- Advice on tariffs for services

- Generic guidance only – exclude review of specific local services
Parameters: potential areas for review

PATHWAY CONFIGURATION examples

- Innovation
  - sentinel lymph node assessment in vulval cancer

- Supra-regional pathways
  - radical trachelectomy
  - post-radiation exenteration

- Rare procedures / rare diagnoses
  - recurrent germ cell tumours

- Procedures per centre / surgeon annually
  - advanced stage ovarian cancer surgery
  - radical hysterectomy
Challenges

- NHS England to accept disease-specific commissioning specifications
- BGCS commissioning subgroup to evidence proposed commissioning changes
- Gynaec oncology community to agree developments
- BGCS, MDTs & gynaec oncology community to resist SCN & LATs from imposing other changes