

B07/S/c

**2013/14 NHS STANDARD CONTRACT  
FOR TROPICAL MEDICINE (ALL AGES)**

**SECTION B PART 1 - SERVICE SPECIFICATIONS**

<b>Service Specification No.</b>	B07/S/c
<b>Service</b>	Tropical Medicine (All Ages)
<b>Commissioner Lead</b>	
<b>Provider Lead</b>	
<b>Period</b>	12 months
<b>Date of Review</b>	

**1. Population Needs**

**1.1 National/local context and evidence base**

**National context:**

The classical tropical diseases such as malaria, trypanosomiasis, leishmaniasis, typhoid and leprosy continue to present in primary and secondary care throughout the UK – increasingly so as a consequence of global travel. These diseases continue to be relatively rare however, and therefore, often sub-optimally treated, if diagnosed at all in a timely manner. Furthermore, the UK’s ageing population, often with co-morbidity, adds to complexity in terms of a timely and effective diagnosis and management. As with other specialist clinical areas, best outcomes will only flow from those units and clinicians with appropriate skill sets and experience.

The health of UK travellers and migrants, and the management of imported infections, are major Department of Health priorities. The increased burden of infection in many non-UK born populations is related to the higher prevalence of infections in the countries from which they originate, usually acquired before arrival in the UK. Some migrants are at on-going risk of these diseases after arrival. Many of these diseases are chronic and progressive, but are almost invariably completely treatable; earlier diagnosis is associated with clinical and public health benefit and is likely to be cost-effective.

The prevalence of parasitic disease, and especially helminth infection within UK migrant communities goes largely undiagnosed and unrecognised. We have

evidence that such infection can be present in up to 70% of first-generation migrants.

In terms of the UK, the South East contains the highest concentration of migrants from developing countries, as well as high indices of poverty.

Improving the health of the poorest, fastest, is a current Department of Health priority; delivering better diagnostics and treatment to these populations will both reduce health inequalities and also reduce transmission of infections to others.

More than 1,500 patients with malaria are diagnosed in the UK each year, including >250 cases of severe and sometimes fatal falciparum malaria. There is a strong association between where people are diagnosed and their outcome. This in part reflects variation in quality of such specialist care, where (for example) new knowledge of better treatments is not universally applied.

Hydatid disease and Leprosy are rare but complex long-term conditions affecting UK residents. Both require multi-disciplinary management, including surgery and costly medication. For example the Hospital for Tropical Diseases (HTD) currently manages >70% of UK hydatid and >90% of all leprosy cases and provides diagnostics, clinical leprosy and parasitology advice. Diagnosis and management of other conditions such as leishmaniasis, trypanosomiasis (African and South American) and helminth infections should also be supported. Tropical Disease Hospitals will provide both laboratory services and specialist clinical advice to infectious diseases clinicians across the UK, where referral of the patient for management is considered and if possible avoided, thereby saving money and unnecessary travel for the patients themselves.

#### **Evidence base:**

- Health Protection Agency Migrant Health Report  
<http://www.hpa.org.uk/Publications/InfectiousDiseases/TravelHealth/1112MigrantHealth/>
- World Health Organisation guideline for management of severe malaria  
[http://whqlibdoc.who.int/publications/2010/9789241547925\\_eng.pdf](http://whqlibdoc.who.int/publications/2010/9789241547925_eng.pdf)
- UK guideline for management of severe malaria  
[http://www.hpa.org.uk/webc/HPAwebFile/HPAweb\\_C/1194947343507](http://www.hpa.org.uk/webc/HPAwebFile/HPAweb_C/1194947343507)
- The Advisory Committee on Dangerous Pathogens (ACDP) report on the management of patients with viral haemorrhagic fever (VHF) -  
<http://www.dh.gov.uk/health/2012/07/vhf-guidance/>
- British Infection Society(BIS)/HTD guideline on management of fever in returned traveller <http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0163445309001546>
- BIS/HTD guideline on management of eosinophilia  
<http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0163445309003600>
- Malaria mortality paper <http://www.bmj.com/content/344/bmj.e2116>
- Training requirements for tropical medicine accreditation/ID accreditation.  
[http://www.gmcuk.org/Tropical\\_Medicine\\_Curriculum\\_FINAL\\_080610\\_V0\\_9.pdf](http://www.gmcuk.org/Tropical_Medicine_Curriculum_FINAL_080610_V0_9.pdf)  
[33216448.pdf](http://www.gmcuk.org/Tropical_Medicine_Curriculum_FINAL_080610_V0_9.pdf) [43573677.pdf](http://www.gmcuk.org/Tropical_Medicine_Curriculum_FINAL_080610_V0_9.pdf)
- <http://www.gmc->

## 2. Scope

### 2.1 Aims and objectives of service

The aim of the service is to provide efficient and effective specialist care for adults and children across the UK with proven or suspected tropical diseases, by supporting timely and efficient diagnosis, treatment and prevention (for those at risk of travel-related disease) and best outcomes.

The tropical diseases service will accept appropriate secondary and tertiary adult and paediatric referrals from across the UK.

Patients will include those with suspected and diagnosed tropical diseases and infections as listed within Appendix 1.

Core objectives should include:

- To efficiently diagnose and treat tropical infections in a timely manner, to include diagnosis by exclusion.
- To provide preventative travel advice
- To provide long-term disease management to support patients in achieving greater quality of life
- Reduced length of hospital stay

The service will deliver these aims by:

- providing an open access emergency clinic plus inpatient and outpatient hub for diagnosis, management and prevention of suspected tropical and parasitological disease.
- providing a service designed to not only diagnose, but also rule out, tropical diseases.
- ensuring timely admission and input from a specialist in tropical medicine within a specialist inpatient facility
- providing 24-hour telephone advice to healthcare professionals around the UK seeking advice on management of their patients.
- providing a specialist learning environment based on these aims, that will maintain and develop UK expertise in tropical and parasitological diseases, disseminate guideline-based best practice and inform UK policy on management of imported infection
- integrating tropical diseases services in the trust with its broad portfolio of other specialist services for the purposes of improved efficiency and patient experience
- providing the UK with the only accredited parasitology diagnostic laboratory. providing a tertiary referral travel clinic service which risk assess and manages patients with complex clinical co-morbidities who wish to travel and are at higher risk of infection and worse outcomes. Generic travel clinics are not funded by

the NHS, but this is a tertiary service offering highly specialised travel advice to a small cohort of patients with complex clinical co-morbidities.

## **2.2 Service description/care pathway**

### **Key principles**

#### **Clinical**

- Patients achieve better outcomes from access to clinicians specialising in tropical diseases and a full multi-disciplinary team to support them.
- The patient experience is improved with more timely referral and treatment.
- The patient experience is much improved by prompt diagnosis
- The patient experience is improved with more experienced staff and peer support.
- Patient outcomes are improved and long term infections managed more effectively through expertise in units dealing with high numbers of patients.
- Unnecessary hospital stays, investigations, antibiotic usage are avoided.

#### **Research**

- Audit, epidemiological, management and outcome data will be collected.
- Lead national research into diagnostic pathways, treatment methods, and delivery and service improvements.

#### **Education**

- Deliver specialist training in tropical medicine as part of NHS consultant accreditation, including experience in a face-to-face pre- travel clinic.
- Deliver, as a Royal College of Physicians (RCP)-approved provider of the London Diploma in Tropical Medicine & Hygiene, all curriculum requirements including clinical exposure to imported tropical infection as provided in specialist tropical centres.

#### **Health Economics**

- The clinical, educational and research principles above will favour savings to health care delivery
- Avoidance of tropical disease through prevention and education and the prompt and effective diagnosis of infections will reduce whole system costs

#### **Components**

Key components for a specialised tropical diseases unit include day-to-day access to the following:

- 2,000 new outpatient appointments per year for specialist tropical advice and treatment, with input from consultants specialising in dermatology,

ophthalmology and histopathology. 65.9% of these referrals are outside of the local commissioning area and, are considerably higher than any other service provided by University College London Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust (UCLH). It is important to note that tropical disease is effectively excluded subsequent to being seen by HTD clinicians. Exclusion of disease is an important function and applies to many of the hospital's referrals. Accordingly, such patients will not have a tropical ICD10 code attached. It is accepted that such specialist activity should nevertheless be captured in the sub-commissioning framework.

- An open access emergency clinic seeing 2,500 attendances per year; this provides rapid diagnosis and thus speedy treatment and prevention of admission where appropriate. Such an open access structure provides the best possible patient experience by giving patients access to a specialist on the same half day if not within an hour, often with “whilst you wait” parasitology results. This Gold Standard level of Quality Care is furthermore highly efficient as time and money are not wasted with unnecessary primary care referral or A&E attendance.
- An external 24-hour telephone advice line receiving over 5,000 calls per year ensuring safe, effective and efficient investigations of patients locally; providing specialist medicines where appropriate, thereby improving outcomes for tropical/ID patients in primary and secondary care at the end of a phone. This advice line is further augmented through a clinical network, namely the Health Protection Agency (HPA)/HTD/Liverpool fever service designed to provide rapid diagnosis of tropical infection, such as Lassa, Rabies and other viral haemorrhagic fevers (20 calls per month).
- National referral service for suspected or proven Leprosy and leishmaniasis. A weekly outpatient clinic by the only leprologist in the UK; a monthly specialist tropical histopathology MDT and reference laboratory support for molecular diagnostics; an outpatient ambulatory therapy service for patients with cutaneous and visceral leishmaniasis; multidrug therapy, specialist occupational therapy and dedicated surgical expertise for patients with leprosy; and PbR-supported drug management of complications of leprosy treatment. This service also provides telephone and e-mail advice to specialists elsewhere in the UK where referral is delayed or inappropriate, plus dedicated expertise and support to national guidelines committee and networks.
- A weekly clinic provided by the only Clinical Parasitologist in the UK, managing imported and UK-acquired parasitological conditions. In addition this service provides clinical advice to healthcare professionals managing patients who do not require referral, plus dedicated expertise to national guidelines committees and clinical networks.
- Pre-travel face-to-face advice for patients with complex medical problems, for which no tariff is available; dedicating expertise to national guidelines/committees/networks etc on pre-travel medicine.
- An inpatient bed base (within a larger ID bed base of 24), with shared clinical teams managing acutely unwell patients with proven or (more often) suspected specific tropical infections, but outnumbered by patients with non-tropical community-acquired, healthcare-associated, immunosuppression-associated infections and HIV.

- Access to other specialist services including intensive care, infectious diseases, microbiology, surgery, HIV medicine, psychology, psychiatric services, social services.
- A clinical governance structure and service lead
- Quality measures: patient experience surveys, clinical outcome measures
- Potential network links.

NB: All tropical diseases outpatient activity is currently funded by a locally agreed tariff equivalent to the PbR tariff for infectious diseases.

Inpatients will be identified by diagnoses defined by the ICD10 codes detailed in Appendix 1 in conjunction with the associated treatment function code 350 (adults). Treatment function code 350 is used as there is no treatment function code for tropical medicine.

Outpatient attendances are not coded by ICD10 codes. As a result all outpatient activity is considered relevant within this specification (see section 2.4 for further information).

The service will also provide telephone and e-mail advice to specialists elsewhere in the UK where referral is delayed or inappropriate, as well as pre-travel face to face advice for patients with complex medical problems. Such services will be funded via nationally agreed tariffs, and where these do not exist via locally agreed tariffs.

### **General Paediatric care**

When treating children, the service will additionally follow the standards and criteria outlined in the Specification for Children's Services (attached as Annex 1 to this specification)

### **2.3 Population covered**

The service outlined in this specification is for patients ordinarily resident in England\*; or otherwise the commissioning responsibility of the NHS in England (as defined in '*Who Pays?: Establishing the responsible commissioner*' and other Department of Health guidance relating to patients entitled to NHS care or exempt from charges).

Specifically, this service is for adults and paediatrics with suspected or proven tropical diseases where a history of potential exposure to imported or complex parasitological infection is relevant; where this service is the appropriate local tropical diseases referral base; or where referring clinicians have deemed that a face-to-face consultation with, or clinician-clinician telephone advice from, our tropical and parasitological expertise is in the patient's interest.

*Note: for the purposes of commissioning health services, this EXCLUDES patients who, whilst resident in England, are registered with a GP practice in*

*Wales, but INCLUDES patients resident in Wales who are registered with a GP practice in England. Legislation for Scotland and Northern Ireland provides that the responsible authority for an individual's healthcare provision is the one where a person is usually resident and is not based on GP practice registration as provided by English legislation.*

## **2.4 Any acceptance and exclusion criteria**

The unit will comply with local and national policies, guidelines and other conditions of commissioning as required (including, but not limited to, mandatory surveillance systems, antimicrobial stewardship, governance, patient safety alerts and NICE).

All outpatient attendances within dedicated tropical medicine clinics are included within this service specification. It is important to note that tropical disease is effectively excluded subsequent to being seen by specialist clinicians at the HTD. Exclusion of disease is an important function and applies to many of our referrals. Accordingly, such patients will not have a tropical ICD10 code attached. We believe that such specialist activity should nevertheless be captured in the sub commissioning framework.

## **2.5 Interdependencies with other services**

Treatment of tropical diseases requires interdependencies with other services including but not limited to:

Highly specialised infectious disease services detailed in separate service specifications :

- High Security Infectious Diseases (HSIDU)
- Infectious Diseases
- Human T-cell Lymphotropic Virus Type 1 (HTLV1)
- Complex Bone & Joint Infections

Interdependent Services :

- Cancer Services
- Services for Blood and Marrow Transplantation
- Services for Women's Healthcare
- Intensive Care
- Infectious Diseases
- Psychology and psychiatric services
- Social services
- Dermatology Services
- Ophthalmology Services
- Renal Services
- Intestinal Failure and Home Parenteral Nutrition Services
- Cardiology and Cardiac Surgery Services
- HIV Treatment and Care Services

- Allergy Services
- Immunology Services
- Liver, Biliary and Pancreatic Medicine and Surgery services
- Children; particularly sections on: cardiology & cardiac surgery, ear nose and throat (ENT), gastroenterology, hepatology, neurosciences, ophthalmology, orthopaedic, renal, respiratory, HIV, and surgery services
- Rheumatology Services
- Respiratory Services

Early presentation, testing and diagnosis are critical in prevention, management and control of tropical diseases, requiring clear pathways with local services in primary care, community care and voluntary sector.

A number of infectious tropical diseases require network management arrangements and clear pathways and responsibilities should be identified.

## 2.6 Key Components of a Specialised Tropical Diseases Service

- Combined inpatient and outpatient care.
- Microbiological, histopathological and radiological diagnostics. Provision for prevention advice and pre-travel services.
- Dedicated inpatient beds staffed by specialist nurses and professionals allied to medicine.
- More than one whole time equivalent consultant who have successfully completed training in tropical medicine to at least ST3 level.
- MDT outpatient clinics.
- Access to either specialised services as required. A clinical governance structure and service lead.
- Quality measures such as patient experience surveys and clinical outcome measures.

## 3. Applicable Service Standards

### 3.1 Applicable national standards e.g. NICE, Royal College

NICE quality standard: Patient experience in adult NHS services

<http://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/qualitystandards/patientexperience/home.jsp>

Patient experience in adult NHS services. NICE clinical guideline 138 (2012).

Available from <http://guidance.nice.org.uk/CG138>

There are several NICE guidelines that may be relevant to certain patient groups. These include:

'The management of pressure ulcers in primary and secondary care,' (2005)



'Nutrition support in adult,' (2006)  
'Venous thrombo-embolic disease' (2012)

World Health Organisation (WHO) guideline for management of severe malaria  
[http://whqlibdoc.who.int/publications/2010/9789241547925\\_eng.pdf](http://whqlibdoc.who.int/publications/2010/9789241547925_eng.pdf)

UK guideline for management of severe malaria  
[http://www.hpa.org.uk/webc/HPAwebFile/HPAweb\\_C/1194947343507](http://www.hpa.org.uk/webc/HPAwebFile/HPAweb_C/1194947343507)

BIS/HTD guideline on management of fever in returned traveller  
<http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0163445309001546>

BIS/HTD guideline on management of eosinophilia  
<http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0163445309003600>

Management of Hazard Group 4 viral haemorrhagic fevers and similar human infectious diseases of high consequence - *Advisory Committee on Dangerous Pathogens* – May 2012  
<http://www.dh.gov.uk/health/files/2012/07/FINAL-VHF-guidance-for-publication.pdf>

#### 4. Key Service Outcomes

##### Outcomes:

##### Clinical

- Patient outcomes
- Readmission rate
- Mortality (30 day and 1 year)
- Patient satisfaction scores

##### Process

- Clinic letters sent out within 5 days of appointment
- 100% compliance with NICE guidance on venous thromboembolism (VTE) prophylaxis
- MRSA and *C.difficile* rates within Department of Health targets
- 100% compliance with Waterlow and MUST score assessments
- Complaints
- Length of stay
- Access to care (waiting times, failure to attend appointment rates) for routine and urgent patients.
- Unplanned transfers to acute specialities such as general medicine, general surgery or intensive care
- Telephone calls to advice line answered within 30 seconds and responses

provided same day

## 5. Location of Provider Premises

The National Highly Specialised providers are located at:

Hospital for Tropical Diseases  
UCL Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust  
2nd Floor Mortimer  
Market Capper Street  
London, WC1E 6JB

Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine  
Pembroke Place  
Liverpool  
L3 5QA

Interim for Adoption from 01/10/13

## Appendix 1

## Infectious Diseases

Primary ICD10 Code (Adults)	
A17.0	Tuberculous meningitis
A17.1	Meningeal tuberculoma
A17.8	Other tuberculosis of nervous system
A17.9	Tuberculosis of nervous system unspecified
A18.5	Tuberculosis of eye
A18.4	Tuberculosis of skin and subcutaneous tissue
A22.0	Cutaneous anthrax
A22.1	Pulmonary anthrax
A22.2	Gastrointestinal anthrax
A22.7	Anthrax septicaemia
A22.8	Other forms of anthrax
A22.9	Anthrax, unspecified
A23.0	Brucellosis due to <i>Brucella melitensis</i>
A23.1	Brucellosis due to <i>Brucella abortus</i>
A23.2	Brucellosis due to <i>Brucella suis</i>
A23.3	Brucellosis due to <i>Brucella canis</i>
A23.8	Other brucellosis
A23.9	Brucellosis, unspecified
A24.1	Acute and fulminating melioidosis
A24.2	Subacute and chronic melioidosis
A24.3	Other melioidosis
A24.4	Melioidosis, unspecified
A31.1	Cutaneous mycobacterial infection
A75.0	Epidemic louse-borne typhus due to <i>Rickettsia prowazekii</i>
A75.2	Typhus fever due to <i>Rickettsia typhi</i>
A75.3	Typhus fever due to <i>Rickettsia tsutsugamushi</i>
A77.0	Spotted fever due to <i>Rickettsia rickettsii</i>
A77.1	Spotted fever due to <i>Rickettsia conorii</i>
A77.2	Spotted fever due to <i>Rickettsia sibirica</i>
A77.3	Spotted fever due to <i>Rickettsia australis</i>
A79.1	Rickettsialpox due to <i>Rickettsia akari</i>
A79.8	Other specified rickettsioses
A79.9	Rickettsiosis, unspecified
A82.0	Sylvatic rabies
A82.1	Urban rabies
A82.9	Rabies, unspecified
A91.X	Dengue haemorrhagic fever

A96.0	Junin haemorrhagic fever
A96.1	Machupo haemorrhagic fever
A96.8	Other arenaviral haemorrhagic fevers
A96.9	Arenaviral haemorrhagic fever, unspecified
A98.0	Crimean-Congo haemorrhagic fever
A98.1	Omsk haemorrhagic fever
A98.5	Haemorrhagic fever with renal syndrome
A98.8	Other specified viral haemorrhagic fevers
A99.X	Unspecified viral haemorrhagic fever
B00.0	Eczema herpeticum
B20.0	HIV Disease leading to secondary infections
B20.1	
B20.3	
B20.5	
B20.7	
B30.3	Acute epidemic haemorrhagic conjunctivitis (enteroviral)
B35.8	Deep and complex dermatophytosis
B38.0	Acute pulmonary coccidioidomycosis
B38.1	Chronic pulmonary coccidioidomycosis
B38.2	Pulmonary coccidioidomycosis, unspecified
B38.3	Cutaneous coccidioidomycosis
B38.4	Coccidioidomycosis meningitis
B38.7	Disseminated coccidioidomycosis
B38.8	Other forms of coccidioidomycosis
B38.9	Coccidioidomycosis, unspecified
B39.0	Acute pulmonary histoplasmosis capsulati
B39.1	Chronic pulmonary histoplasmosis capsulati
B39.2	Pulmonary histoplasmosis capsulati, unspecified
B39.3	Disseminated histoplasmosis capsulati
B39.4	Histoplasmosis capsulati, unspecified
B39.5	Histoplasmosis duboisii
B39.9	Histoplasmosis, unspecified
B40.0	Acute pulmonary blastomycosis
B40.1	Chronic pulmonary blastomycosis
B40.2	Pulmonary blastomycosis, unspecified
B40.3	Cutaneous blastomycosis
B40.7	Disseminated blastomycosis

B40.8	Other forms of blastomycosis
B40.9	Blastomycosis, unspecified
B41.0	Pulmonary paracoccidioidomycosis
B41.7	Disseminated paracoccidioidomycosis
B41.8	Other forms of paracoccidioidomycosis
B41.9	Paracoccidioidomycosis, unspecified
B42.1	Lymphocutaneous sporotichosis
B43.0	Cutaneous chromomycosis
B43.8	Other forms of chromomycosis
B43.9	Chromomycosis, unspecified
B47.X	Mycetoma
B50.0	Plasmodium falciparum malaria with cerebral complications
B50.8	Other severe and complicated Plasmodium falciparum malaria
B51.0	Plasmodium vivax malaria with rupture of spleen
B51.8	Plasmodium vivax malaria with other complications
B52.0	Plasmodium malariae malaria with nephropathy
B52.8	Plasmodium malariae malaria with other complications
B55.0	Visceral leishmaniasis
B55.1	Cutaneous leishmaniasis
B55.2	Mucocutaneous leishmaniasis
B55.9	Leishmaniasis, unspecified
B56.0	Gambiense trypanosomiasis
B56.1	Rhodesiense trypanosomiasis
B56.9	African trypanosomiasis, unspecified
B57.0	Acute Chagas' disease with heart involvement
B57.1	Acute Chagas' disease without heart involvement
B57.2	Chagas' disease (chronic) with heart involvement
B57.3	Chagas' disease (chronic) with digestive system involvement
B57.4	Chagas' disease (chronic) with nervous system involvement
B57.5	Chagas' disease (chronic) with other organ involvement
B67.0	Echinococcus granulosus infection of liver
B67.1	Echinococcus granulosus infection of lung
B67.2	Echinococcus granulosus infection of bone
B67.3	Echinococcus granulosus infection, other and multiple sites
B67.4	Echinococcus granulosus infection, unspecified
B67.5	Echinococcus multilocularis infection of liver

B67.6	Echinococcus multilocularis infection oth / multiple sites
B67.7	Echinococcus multilocularis infection, unspecified
B67.8	Echinococcosis, unspecified, of liver
B67.9	Echinococcosis, other and unspecified
B69.0	Cysticercosis of central nervous system
B69.1	Cysticercosis of eye
B69.8	Cysticercosis of other sites
B69.9	Cysticercosis, unspecified
B73.X	Onchocerciasis
B74.0	Filariasis due to Wuchereria bancrofti
B74.1	Filariasis due to Brugia malayi
B74.2	Filariasis due to Brugia timori
B74.3	Loiasis
B74.8	Other filariases
B74.9	Filariasis, unspecified
B78.0	Intestinal strongyloidiasis
B78.1	Cutaneous strongyloidiasis
B78.7	Disseminated strongyloidiasis
B78.9	Strongyloidiasis, unspecified
B81.2	Trichostrongyliasis
B81.3	Intestinal angiostrongyliasis
B81.4	Mixed intestinal helminthiasis
B81.8	Other specified intestinal helminthiasis
B82.0	Intestinal helminthiasis, unspecified
B88.1	Tungiasis (sandflea infestation)
B83.2	Angiostrongyliasis due to Parastrongylus cantonensis
B83.8	Other specified helminthiasis
B83.9	Helminthiasis, unspecified
B90.0	Sequelae of central nervous system tuberculosis
B92.X	Sequelae of leprosy
Z20.3	Contact with and exposure to rabies
Z22.6	Carrier of human T-lymphotropic virus type-1 [HTLV-1] infect

## **ANNEX 1 TO SERVICE SPECIFICATION:**

### **PROVISION OF SERVICES TO CHILDREN**

#### **Aims and objectives of service**

**This specification annex applies to all children's services and outlines generic standards and outcomes that would be fundamental to all services.**

#### **The generic aspects of care:**

The Care of Children in Hospital (HSC 1998/238) requires that:

- Children are admitted to hospital only if the care they require cannot be as well provided at home, in a day clinic or on a day basis in hospital.
- Children requiring admission to hospital are provided with a high standard of medical, nursing and therapeutic care to facilitate speedy recovery and minimise complications and mortality.
- Families with children have easy access to hospital facilities for children without needing to travel significantly further than to other similar amenities.
- Children are discharged from hospital as soon as socially and clinically appropriate and full support provided for subsequent home or day care.
- Good child health care is shared with parents/carers and they are closely involved in the care of their children at all times unless, exceptionally, this is not in the best interest of the child; accommodation is provided for them to remain with their children overnight if they so wish.

#### **Service description/care pathway**

All paediatric specialised services have a component of primary, secondary, tertiary and even quaternary elements.

The efficient and effective delivery of services requires children to receive their care as close to home as possible dependent on the phase of their disease.

Services should therefore be organised and delivered through "integrated pathways of care" (*National Service Framework for children, young people and maternity services* (Department of Health & Department for Education and Skills, London 2004))

#### **Interdependencies with other services**

All services will comply with *Commissioning Safe and Sustainable Specialised Paediatric Services: A Framework of Critical Interdependencies* – Department of Health

## Imaging

- All services will be supported by a three-tier imaging network ('*Delivering quality imaging services for children*', Department of Health, 13732 March, 2010). Within the network:
  - it will be clearly defined which imaging test or interventional procedure can be performed and reported at each site
  - robust procedures will be in place for image transfer for review by a specialist radiologist, these will be supported by appropriate contractual and information governance arrangements
  - robust arrangements will be in place for patient transfer if more complex imaging or intervention is required
  - common standards, protocols and governance procedures will exist throughout
  - all radiologists, and radiographers will have appropriate training, supervision and access to continuing professional development
  - all equipment will be optimised for paediatric use and use specific paediatric software

## Specialist Paediatric Anaesthesia

- Wherever and whenever children undergo anaesthesia and surgery, their particular needs must be recognised and they should be managed in separate facilities, and looked after by staff with appropriate experience and training.<sup>1</sup> All UK anaesthetists undergo training which provides them with the competencies to care for older babies and children with relatively straightforward surgical conditions and without major co-morbidity. However those working in specialist centres must have undergone additional (specialist) training<sup>2</sup> and should maintain the competencies so acquired<sup>3</sup> \*. These competencies include the care of very young/premature babies, the care of babies and children undergoing complex surgery and/or those with major/complex co-morbidity (including those already requiring intensive care support).
- As well as providing an essential co-dependent service for surgery, specialist anaesthesia and sedation services may be required to facilitate radiological procedures and interventions (for example MRI scans and percutaneous nephrostomy) and medical interventions (for example joint injection and intrathecal chemotherapy), and for assistance with vascular access in babies and children with complex needs such as intravenous feeding.
- Specialist acute pain services for babies and children are organised within existing departments of paediatric anaesthesia and include the provision of agreed (hospital wide) guidance for acute pain, the safe administration of complex analgesia regimes including epidural analgesia, and the daily input of specialist anaesthetists and acute pain nurses with expertise in paediatrics.  
\*The Safe and Sustainable reviews of paediatric cardiac and neuro- sciences in England have noted the need for additional training and maintenance of competencies by specialist anaesthetists in both fields of practice.



- References
  1. GPAS Paediatric anaesthetic services. RCoA 2010 [www.rcoa.ac.uk](http://www.rcoa.ac.uk)
  2. CCT in Anaesthesia 2010
  3. CPD matrix level 3

### **Specialised Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS)**

The age profile of children and young people admitted to specialised CAMHS day/in-patient settings is different to the age profile for paediatric units in that it is predominantly adolescents who are admitted to specialised CAMHS in-patient settings, including over-16s. The average length of stay is longer for admissions to mental health units. Children and young people in specialised CAMHS day/in-patient settings generally participate in a structured programme of education and therapeutic activities during their admission.

Taking account of the differences in patient profiles the principles and standards set out in this specification apply with modifications to the recommendations regarding the following:

- Facilities and environment – essential Quality Network for In-patient CAMHS (QNIC) standards should apply (<http://www.rcpsych.ac.uk/quality/quality accreditationaudit/gnic1.aspx>)
- Staffing profiles and training - essential QNIC standards should apply.
- The child/ young person's family are allowed to visit at any time of day taking account of the child / young person's need to participate in therapeutic activities and education as well as any safeguarding concerns.
- Children and young people are offered appropriate education from the point of admission.
- Parents/carers are involved in the child/young person's care except where this is not in the best interests of the child / young person and in the case of young people who have the capacity to make their own decisions is subject to their consent.
- Parents/carers who wish to stay overnight are provided with accessible accommodation unless there are safeguarding concerns or this is not in the best interests of the child/ young person.

### **Applicable national standards e.g. NICE, Royal College**

Children and young people must receive care, treatment and support by staff registered by the Nursing and Midwifery Council on the parts of their register that permit a nurse to work with children (Outcome 14h *Essential Standards of Quality and Safety*, Care Quality Commission, London 2010)

- There must be at least two Registered Children's Nurses (RCNs) on duty 24 hours a day in all hospital children's departments and wards.
- There must be an Registered Children's Nurse available 24 hours a day to advise on the nursing of children in other departments (this post is included in

the staff establishment of two RCNs in total).

Accommodation, facilities and staffing must be appropriate to the needs of children and separate from those provided for adults. All facilities for children and young people must comply with the Hospital Build Notes *HBN 23 Hospital Accommodation for Children and Young People* NHS Estates, The Stationary Office 2004.

All staff who work with children and young people must be appropriately trained to provide care, treatment and support for children, including Children's Workforce Development Council Induction standards (Outcome 14b *Essential Standards of Quality and Safety*, Care Quality Commission, London 2010).

Each hospital who admits inpatients must have appropriate medical cover at all times taking account of guidance from relevant expert or professional bodies (National Minimum Standards for Providers of Independent Healthcare, Department of Health, London 2002). "Facing the Future" Standards, Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health.

Staff must carry out sufficient levels of activity to maintain their competence in caring for children and young people, including in relation to specific anaesthetic and surgical procedures for children, taking account of guidance from relevant expert or professional bodies (Outcome 14g *Essential Standards of Quality and Safety*, Care Quality Commission, London 2010).

Providers must have systems in place to gain and review consent from people who use services, and act on them (Outcome 2a *Essential Standards of Quality and Safety*, Care Quality Commission, London 2010). These must include specific arrangements for seeking valid consent from children while respecting their human rights and confidentiality and ensure that where the person using the service lacks capacity, best interest meetings are held with people who know and understand the person using the service. Staff should be able to show that they know how to take appropriate consent from children, young people and those with learning disabilities (Outcome 2b) (*Seeking Consent: working with children* Department of Health, London 2001).

Children and young people must only receive a service from a provider who takes steps to prevent abuse and does not tolerate any abusive practice should it occur (Outcome 7 *Essential Standards of Quality and Safety*, Care Quality Commission, London 2010 defines the standards and evidence required from providers in this regard). Providers minimise the risk and likelihood of abuse occurring by:

- ensuring that staff and people who use services understand the aspects of the safeguarding processes that are relevant to them.
- ensuring that staff understand the signs of abuse and raise this with the right person when those signs are noticed.
- ensuring that people who use services are aware of how to raise concerns of abuse.
- having effective means to monitor and review incidents, concerns and complaints that have the potential to become an abuse or safeguarding concern.
- having effective means of receiving and acting upon feedback from people who

use services and any other person.

- taking action immediately to ensure that any abuse identified is stopped and suspected abuse is addressed by:
  - having clear procedures followed in practice, monitored and reviewed that take account of relevant legislation and guidance for the management of alleged abuse
  - separating the alleged abuser from the person who uses services and others who may be at risk or managing the risk by removing the opportunity for abuse to occur, where this is within the control of the provider
  - reporting the alleged abuse to the appropriate authority
  - reviewing the person's plan of care to ensure that they are properly supported following the alleged abuse incident.
- using information from safeguarding concerns to identify non-compliance, or any risk of non-compliance, with the regulations and to decide what will be done to return to compliance.
- working collaboratively with other services, teams, individuals and agencies in relation to all safeguarding matters and has safeguarding policies that link with local authority policies.
- participating in local safeguarding children boards where required and understand their responsibilities and the responsibilities of others in line with the Children Act 2004.
- having clear procedures followed in practice, monitored and reviewed in place about the use of restraint and safeguarding.
- taking into account relevant guidance set out in the Care Quality Commission's Schedule of Applicable Publications
- ensuring that those working with children must wait for a full Criminal Records Bureau (CRB) disclosure before starting work.
- training and supervising staff in safeguarding to ensure they can demonstrate the competences listed in Outcome 7E of the *Essential Standards of Quality and Safety*, Care Quality Commission, London 2010

All children and young people who use services must be:

- fully informed about their care, treatment and support.
- able to take part in decision making to the fullest extent that is possible.
- asked if they agree for their parents or guardians to be involved in decisions they need to make.

(Outcome 4I *Essential Standards of Quality and Safety*, Care Quality Commission, London 2010)

## Key Service Outcomes

Evidence is increasing that implementation of the national Quality Criteria for Young People Friendly Services (Department of Health, London 2011) have the potential to greatly improve patient experience, leading to better health outcomes for young people and increasing socially responsible life-long use of the NHS. Implementation is also expected to contribute to improvements in health inequalities and public health outcomes e.g. reduced teenage pregnancy and STIs, and increased smoking cessation. All providers delivering services to young people should be implementing the good practice guidance which delivers compliance with the quality criteria.

Poorly planned transition from young people's to adult-oriented health services can be associated with increased risk of non-adherence to treatment and loss to follow-up, which can have serious consequences. There are measurable adverse consequences in terms of morbidity and mortality as well as in social and educational outcomes. When children and young people who use paediatric services are moving to access adult services (for example, during transition for those with long term conditions), these should be organised so that:

- all those involved in the care, treatment and support cooperate with the planning and provision to ensure that the services provided continue to be appropriate to the age and needs of the person who uses services.

The National Minimum Standards for Providers of Independent Healthcare, (Department of Health, London 2002) require the following standards:

- **A16.1** Children are seen in a separate out-patient area, or where the hospital does not have a separate outpatient area for children, they are seen promptly.
- **A16.3** Toys and/or books suitable to the child's age are provided.
- **A16.8** There are segregated areas for the reception of children and adolescents into theatre and for recovery, to screen the children and adolescents from adult
- Patients; the segregated areas contain all necessary equipment for the care of children.
- **A16.9** A parent is to be actively encouraged to stay at all times, with accommodation made available for the adult in the child's room or close by.
- **A16.10** The child's family is allowed to visit him/her at any time of the day, except where safeguarding procedures do not allow this
- **A16.13** When a child is in hospital for more than five days, play is managed and supervised by a qualified Hospital Play Specialist.
- **A16.14** Children are required to receive education when in hospital for more than five days; the Local Education Authority has an obligation to meet this need and are contacted if necessary.
- **A18.10** There are written procedures for the assessment of pain in children and the provision of appropriate control.

All hospital settings should meet the Standards for the Care of Critically Ill Children (Paediatric Intensive Care Society, London 2010).

There should be age specific arrangements for meeting Regulation 14 of the Health

and Social Care Act 2008 (Regulated Activities) Regulations 2010. These require:

- a choice of suitable and nutritious food and hydration, in sufficient quantities to meet service users' needs;
- food and hydration that meet any reasonable requirements arising from a service user's religious or cultural background
- support, where necessary, for the purposes of enabling service users to eat and drink sufficient amounts for their needs.
- for the purposes of this regulation, "food and hydration" includes, where applicable, parenteral nutrition and the administration of dietary supplements where prescribed.
- that providers must have access to facilities for infant feeding, including facilities to support breastfeeding (Outcome 5E, of the Essential Standards of Quality and Safety, Care Quality Commission, London 2010)

All paediatric patients should have access to appropriately trained paediatric trained dieticians, physiotherapists, occupational therapists, speech and language therapy, psychology, social work and CAMHS services within nationally defined access standards.

All children and young people should have access to a professional who can undertake an assessment using the Common Assessment Framework and access support from social care, housing, education and other agencies as appropriate

All registered providers must ensure safe use and management of medicines, by means of the making of appropriate arrangements for the obtaining, recording, handling, using, safe keeping, dispensing, safe administration and disposal of medicines (Outcome 9 Essential Standards of Quality and Safety, Care Quality Commission, London 2010). For children, these should include specific arrangements that:

- ensure the medicines given are appropriate and person-centred by taking account of their age, weight and any learning disability
- ensure that staff handling medicines have the competency and skills needed for children and young people's medicines management
- ensure that wherever possible, age specific information is available for people about the medicines they are taking, including the risks, including information about the use of unlicensed medicine in paediatrics.

Many children with long term illnesses have a learning or physical disability.

Providers should ensure that:

- they are supported to have a health action plan
- facilities meet the appropriate requirements of the Disability Discrimination Act 1995
- they meet the standards set out in Transition: getting it right for young people. Improving the transition of young people with long-term conditions from children's to adult health services. Department of Health Publications, 2006, London

*End.*

Interim for Adoption from 01/10/13