



NHS Addictions Provider Alliance (Formally the NHS Substance Misuse Alliance) – Hepatitis C Patient Identification

Joint Working Executive Summary

Parties to the Joint Working:

1. The Midlands Partnership NHS Foundation Trust (MPFT) of Trust Headquarters, St Georges Hospital, Corporation Street, Stafford ST16 3SR
2. Gilead Sciences Ltd, a company registered in England (registration number: 02543818), having a principal place of business at 280 High Holborn, London WC1V 7EE

Start Date: July 2019
Anticipated End Date: March 2022

Project Summary:

The Midlands Partnership NHS Foundation Trust (MPFT) and Gilead Sciences Limited are engaged in a Joint Working Project to identify, test and treat people at risk of having Hepatitis C with the goal of eliminating Hepatitis C in advance of the WHO target of 2030

NHS Trust party to this joint working agreement:

- Northumberland Tyne and Wear NHS Trust
- Surrey and Borders Partnership NHS Trust
- Derbyshire Healthcare NHS Trust
- Birmingham and Solihull Mental Health NHS Trust
- Pennie Care NHS Foundation Trust
- South London and Maudsley NHS Trust
- Central and North West London Mental Health
- Avon and Wiltshire Mental Health NHS Trust
- Greater Manchester Mental Health NHS Trust
- Nottinghamshire Healthcare NHS Trust
- Inclusion (MPNHSFT)
- Lead and York Partnership NHS Trust
- North Staffs Combined Healthcare NHS Trust
- Kent and Medway Partnership Trust

Aims:

- To increase the number of at-risk people per month who are tested for Hepatitis C within the NHS Substance Misuse Alliance territories;
- To increase the number of people appropriately referred into the care of a treater, either those who are newly diagnosed Hepatitis C positive or those previously diagnosed with Hepatitis C but not treated;
- To improve the efficiency with which Hepatitis C positive patients are diagnosed and ultimately treated as measured, e.g. through data reported by Operational Delivery Networks.

To deliver these objectives, the Joint Working Project must:

- Increase SMS staff awareness and training
- Ensure each SMS has an effective Hep C care and treatment pathway.
- Ensure consistent disease notification to Public Health England.
- Increase engagement from NHS substance misuse service providers, both within the NHSSMPA and outside.
- Increase awareness and adoption of best practice Hepatitis C pathways in locations where NHS providers work with 3rd sector partners.

Anticipated Benefits:**Patients:**

- Patients will benefit from improved pathways increasing the number of patients receiving treatment and cure, reducing morbidity associated with HCV and further disease progression.
- Patients will benefit as earlier diagnosis and care interventions may prevent onwards transmission.
- The project will direct public health protection interventions through patient engagement in harm reduction programs and treatment of at-risk individuals.

NHS:

- The NHS will benefit as earlier diagnosis and care interventions may prevent onwards transmission.
- The NHS and local health economies will benefit from the reduction in costs associated with progression of HCV such as development of cirrhosis, decompensation, liver cancer and the need for liver transplants.
- The NHS will benefit from treating more patients increasing the likelihood of elimination and satisfying the requirements of the HCV Strategic Framework and C-QUIN established by NHS England.
- The project will direct public health protection interventions through patient engagement in harm reduction programs and treatment of at-risk individuals.

Gilead:

- Gilead will benefit as this initiative will enhance Gilead's reputation in the field of Hepatitis C
- The initiative will assist Gilead in complying with its contractual obligations to NHS England.
- All Joint Project Group members will have the option of co-authoring presentations and publications from this work.

Contributions from Each Party:**Gilead Resources**

Gilead will directly fund a number of new NHS posts to work on this project at a cost of £250,000 per annum, contribute some of its own staff time and expertise, and provide at its discretion further direct financial investment to the project, as follows:

- HCV data analyst – 0.6 FTE
- HCV Coordinators – 3 FTE

Gilead staff who will contribute time and expertise:

- Regional Market Access – 0.5 FTE
- Gilead Regional Leads – 1.75 FTE
- Therapeutic Specialists – 0.8 FTE

Additionally:

Gilead will make available a development and Testing fund against which competitive bids can be made to aid pathway development and remove barriers in local services and will also make available a year 1 contribution of £15,000 to support NHSE's development of the HepCULater awareness raising campaign.

NHS partners will contribute significant staff time and resource:

- Medical Lead – Inclusion will support pathway management
- Clinical Care Director and Head of Quality will provide quality assurance
- Head of Inclusion and Commercial and Information Lead will provide staff management
- Head of Inclusion will support trust engagement with partners
- Head of Inclusion will provide representation on project steering group
- Development Officer will support organisation of project steering group meetings
- Medical Lead – Inclusion, Clinical Care Director and Head of Quality will provide support on clinical governance and design

Above and beyond activity for which they are currently commissioned and working at a local level each participating hospital trust will be contributing time and resources to the project to ensure that effective provision is in place to test people at risk, identify and engage people and to ensure specialist treatment is in place at the point of need.

This may include, but not be limited to, the provision of testing kits, phlebotomy, nursing time and key worker staff time, line management, operational and logistical support, clinical space and resources, internal training, supervision and governance and wider networking activity with local partners that engage with at risk individuals.

The Hep C U Later campaign will be developed and delivered solely by the NHS. They will contribute staff time and expertise to:

- Development and dissemination of the campaign, supporting materials, website and social media feed
- Creation and dissemination of monthly project bulletins to key stakeholders;
- Organisation of bi-annual engagement events
- Development of expert patient involvement group to support the project
- Development and dissemination of case studies and Service User stories