

Clinical Support Services Winter Plan 2020

(Interim plan August 2020)

Clinical support services will aim to adjust its operational winter planning requirement and contingency plans to match system wide plans once completed . This draft plan outlines anticipated actions to support service delivery over the Winter 2020/21 period.

Therapy Services

- Work has commenced to scope out requirements of the system wide “Seacole” and Nightingale workstreams
- Locally the non-bed base reablement schemes are being scaled up and aligned with system requirements across organisational boundaries.
- Workforce delivery is being supported by the pilot AHP faculty test bed processes which breaking down boundaries to create a highly skilled flexible AHP workforce, including deployment plans for trust clusters and a regional bank.
- The AHP workforce will continue to be used flexibly across clinical pathways and specialisms internally to maximise resource. The marketing of capability of AHP services has commenced so all directorates fully understand the opportunities that arise with efficacy of resource by maximising the shared skill set of AHPs within speciality areas.

Radiology:

- Diagnostic capacity will be flexed to provide more in-patient and SDEC capacity to reflect anticipated increases in acute presentations and admissions during the period November 2020 to March 2021.
 - Increased evening and weekend sessions Ultrasound /CT
 - Ad hoc targeted capacity to support maintenance of Cancer and diagnostic targets
 - Diagnostic provision matched to any plans for Urgent care opening times expansion
- Weekly capacity /demand review will inform adjustments to elective diagnostic templates
- Patients who can be safely discharged whilst awaiting diagnostics will be offered next available appointment within 48 hours

- Patients whose discharge is dependent on diagnostics will be urgently managed through an internal escalation process.
- Diversion of GP workload to Millennium Centre / St Helens site /Widnes /Newton sites as required
- Additional radiographic resource available for Theatre and fracture clinics if required
- Plan to expand the bank radiographic resource to support evenings and weekend expansion
- 2nd on call radiographer and senior radiographer on call to be available on site for out of hours escalation.

Pathology

- Mortuary capacity has increased from the 2019 baseline and has increased from 212 spaces to a potential 366 spaces utilising the fixed and temporary capacity at Southport, Ormskirk and Whiston sites
- Bereavement services will be open on standard working days (closed bank holidays)
- Blood sciences and transfusion usual 24/7 services
- Phlebotomy
 - Community provision as per normal working days
 - Trust provision adjusted to match in patient capacity

Out –Patients

- Clinical templates will be adjusted as usual to accommodate rapid assessment and follow up in acute specialities.
- Redeployment of workforce as required in line with business continuity processes

Neurophysiology

- Flexed capacity to accommodate variations in winter demand
- Remote Consultant support as required .