

A Review of the Sheffield Children's Hospital (SCH) PCCU Transition Guidelines

Why was this audit conducted?

- Vital that the young person is supported throughout this handover and goes into the adult sector with the knowledge and understanding required to appropriately manage their condition.
- Allows the young person to become familiarised with the staff and services they will be accessing for their adult lives.
- Transition can be daunting for patients and their support network, so a gradual introduction into services can ease their worries.

Recruitment

- Appropriate patients/ families identified by the Family Liaison team
- Contacted via a letter regarding participation in the study- option to email/ ring if they did not wish to participate.
- 7 patients were contacted, with 5 agreeing to participate

Methods

- Families participated in a telephone consultation to discuss their experience during transition
- Initially, 7 questions were agreed upon to use
- After reviewing the first consultation, we determined these to not be appropriate so moved to a simpler, 3 question format

The initial 7 questions

- 1-Is the process of transition of care from paediatric to adult CC working well or not?
- 2-What is working well and what is it the most important thing that supported you?
- 3-What is not working well?
- 4-What are your major concerns/ anxieties and how can we help with this?
- 5- How useful do you find the transition plan document?
- 6-How can the transition pathway document be improved to make it more useful?
- 7-How involved do you want your parents to be in the transition process?

The adapted questions

- 1.What is working well (with regards to both the transition process and the transition documentation).
- 2.What is not working well (with regards to both the transition process and the transition documentation).
- 3.How can we assist with any major concerns/ anxieties you had during the transition?

“Having a clear contact within the department who we could speak to about any issues during the process alleviated a lot of our concerns and worries as parents”

“I was not made aware of how my legal rights over my child would change once they transitioned. I feel the department could have provided more information on this”

“The transition team took on the responsibility of contacting the relevant teams and departments on our behalf”

“A lack of face-to-face meetings with the adult medicine teams made it difficult to build relationships and trust with these members of staff”

“When meeting the adult teams, our child was included within the discussions and was able to give their viewpoint. It was nice to have discussions including them rather than just about them.”

“The adult medicine teams did not have the same understanding of my child's condition. Not sure if the hospital passport system is being implemented effectively”.

Recommendations made

Transition documentation:

- Provide a ‘guide’ for parents regarding their legal rights once their child enters the adult sector.
- Make the transition document specific to each patient.
- Provide a clear set of contacts if there are any difficulties with transition.

Transition process:

- Consider starting the process earlier- acknowledgement that accessing adult services takes time (particularly in the aftermath of the pandemic).
- Review the ‘hospital passport’ system to see if it is used/ beneficial.
- Handover to adult services should include the patients GP.
- Continue to get feedback from families to further improve the guidelines.



The University Of Sheffield.

Sheffield Children's NHS Foundation Trust

This audit was conducted by:

Nicholas Prescott, Medical Student, University of Sheffield
Nprescott1@sheffield.ac.uk
Nicholas.Prescott@nhs.net

Dr Rum Thomas, Consultant PCCU, Sheffield Children's Hospital
Rum.Thomas@nhs.net

Clare Green, Family Care Sister/ Continuing Care Coordinator
Clare/green8@nhs.net