



National Wound Care Strategy Programme Board Meeting

Summary Notes

Tuesday 5th May 2020 11.20 – 13.00

Microsoft Teams Teleconference

- Declarations of Interest were received and noted, and the minutes of the last meeting were agreed as an accurate record.
- No response from NICE has yet been received so a further letter will be sent.
- The start of the CQUIN scheme has been delayed until July 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Progress on GIRFT has been delayed due to COVID-19.
- The Council of Deans will be contacted to seek engagement with the NWCSF education work.
- **COVID-19** has delayed confirmation of the promised funding from NHS England and NHS Improvement (NHS E and NHS I) and led to the deployment of many NWCSF workstream members to clinical practice or other COVID-19 related activity. This has delayed progress for most NWCSF initiatives and necessitated the temporary suspension of the NWCSF Stop the Pressure and Supply and Distribution workstreams. In addition, there has been additional workload for the NWCSF though increased liaison with NHS policy bodies, reporting of wound care related issues (e.g. availability of pressure damage prevention equipment) and the need to create documentation and signposting to support wound care. One positive outcome from the pandemic was an increased interest in telehealth and self-care. Thought will be given to how wound care should be delivered both now and after the pandemic and the impact on services and priorities. A monthly update report will be shared with the Board and an additional Board teleconference arranged for mid-July.
- **Supply and Distribution -National Wound Care Products Classification System and Specifications:** The wound product specifications have been passed to NHS Supply Chain Clinical and Product Assurance (CaPA) team and an interim report has been sent to the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) who commissioned the work. A draft wound products classification system is undergoing initial testing but will next be shared with supplier organisations for further testing and refinement.
- **NWCSF Workstreams Update Report:** Work has started on the e-Learning for Health online modules, with the development of specifications for the initial modules (Essentials of Skin Assessment and Essentials of Wound Assessment). A further module on leg ulcers is in the early stages of development and others will follow, funding permitting.

- **Lower Limb Draft Recommendations:** These are currently posted on the NWCSF website and further feedback is welcomed until mid-July. The recommendations will then be finalised and adoption by NHS E & NHS I will then be sought. It is planned to add an explanatory diagram once the recommendations are finalised.
- **Business case for implement of the Lower Limb recommendations for leg ulcer care:** The business case is being developed in partnership with an external consultancy (PA Consulting) and will outline the financial case for investment to improve clinical practice at national level but also provide a modelling tool that will allow individual organisations to input their own data and thus customise a local business case with associated costs and benefits.
- **Surgical Wounds Recommendations – Feedback from Stakeholder Consultation:** Work is ongoing to address the issues raised in the feedback and the updated recommendations will be posted on the NWCSF website with an invitation for further feedback until mid-August 2020.
- **Wound Care Capability Framework Report:** The Board agreed that funding needs to be identified to allow Skills for Health to be commissioned to develop a national wound care capability framework building on existing work. The NWCSF will engage Health Education England (HEE) Board to discuss the way forward.
- **Operational Budget Report 2020/21:** The Board supported the proposed spending plans for 2020-21 once funding has been confirmed. These prioritise data and information work and then recruitment of workstream leads and regional leads to support implementation of the emerging outputs.
- **Risk Register Report:** The Board agreed that the identified risks relating to funding should be increased to 'extreme risk' due to the uncertainty about funding.
- **AOB:** The NWCSF has developed a social media plan which will be shared with board members following the meeting.