



**National Wound Care Strategy Programme Oversight and Transformation
Board Meeting**

Board Summary Notes

These notes summarise the business of the NWCSF Board which met on 6th June 2023.

- All matters arising from the previous Board Meeting had been actioned. NICE has responded to Una Adderley about the letter concerning our review of the wound infection guidance and plans to appoint a working group to address the NWCSF concerns.
- The planned consultation for the surgical wound complications recommendations may be delayed due to an unexpected staff absence.
- The seven FImpS continue to make good progress during very large organisational changes. Plans are underway to commission the same consultant (PA Consulting) to carry out a final evaluation to collect and report further evidence from all seven FImpS (building on the previous interim evaluation).
- The Transforming Wound Care (TWC) programme is showing good early signs of progress but changes in how the AHSN is commissioned will affect the recruitment of more sites as there will be insufficient resource to provide individual support for fast followers. Onboarding the new sites (Locala in West Yorkshire and CLCH in South London) is going well and work to refine the TWC governance structure and processes is ongoing. Julie Hewish, a tissue viability nurse based at Oxford AHSN, will take over as Clinical Lead.
- The NWCSF will focus on developing partnerships to expand the reach of communications.
- Representation of different skin tones will be checked as part of the sign off process for new patient and public voice resources.
- Communications for the Leg Ulcer Best Practice Bundle will be informed by the communications for the CNO strategy and this will be addressed when the project has progressed further.
- A recent issue with external organisations advertising events with NWCSF speakers without these speakers having been invited or accepted is being addressed on a case-by-case basis.
- The NWCSF continues to anticipate a 30% reduction in funding. Although this has not yet been confirmed, spending plans are aligned with this expectation. Work is in progress to propose that the NWCSF should be funded as an invest-to-save programme.
- Most risks included in the risk register related to the uncertain financial pressures. A new risk relates to the additional pressures on provider organisations due to staffing and funding shortages and NHS strikes. This will likely impact on ability and willingness to engage with the NWCSF recommendations for quality improvement.
- It was suggested that ICBs should be the focus for engagement with the Lower Limb Best Practice Bundle project and that if the Bundle could be approved as part of a national strategy, this would cover the whole pathway of care.
- The NWCSF team has followed advice to end the focus on surveillance in the pressure ulcer improvement work and is incorporating this advice into the ongoing work to improve surveillance. The NWCSF team are currently recruiting a clinical provider organisation partner to develop the new approach to surveillance. Additional NHS E funding is being sought to support this work.
- The NWCSF is signposting to the new NICE guidance for using automated ankle brachial pressure index measurement devices for diagnosis of Peripheral Arterial Disease in people with leg ulcers.