

Learn how King's College Hospital will save 563 bed days

(Sep - Nov) through the
new **OPAT** service
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South London PDAFs submitted

South East London (SEL) and South West London (SWL) Integrated Care Boards (ICBs) submitted their draft pre delegation assessment frameworks (PDAF) to NHS England in October. Whilst most ICBs in England returned their PDAF with a preference to enter a joint committee structure with NHSE from April 2023, South London felt prepared to take on full delegation.

The PDAF aims to help ascertain each ICB's capability to assume responsibility for services within their geographies in advance of delegation (April 2022).

NHS England arranged PDAF assurance meetings with SEL / SWL ICB and provider representatives. Initial feedback has been positive, noting the comprehensive work of the South London programme. Key lines of enquiry will be raised for further detail within the six domains.

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The commissioning and funding landscape is changing.

South London ICSs and tertiary providers have taken the opportunity to work collaboratively to integrate specialised services and deliver an end to end pathway approach for patients.

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KCH is on track to save 563 bed days through OPAT service (Sep-Nov)

Treating appropriate patients in the community through an outpatient parenteral antimicrobial therapy (OPAT) service for care closer to home with realised operational efficiencies

- **The new King's College Hospital outpatient parenteral antimicrobial therapy (OPAT) service, launched 5 September, has saved 563 bed days, proving an exceptionally effective way to move people from the hospital setting.**
- Beyond caring for these patients closer to home, further bed days have been saved through the identification of referred patients to the OPAT service who were appropriate for discharge from hospital.
- There has been a steady flow of referrals across a range of clinical specialties: spine, brain abscess, diabetic foot, infective endocarditis, and bone and joint pathways.
- The OPAT team has capacity to receive more referrals via the team email, kch-tr.opatnurses@nhs.net.
- A clinical dashboard has been developed to track the success of this initiative – patient, outcomes, efficiencies, and populations served.
- This six month pilot has been funded by NHS South East London ICS. A business case for recurrent funding will be submitted to the KCH board in January for continuation of this successful endeavour.
- By January 2023, it is calculated that the service will save approximately 1,800 bed days. Bed day savings are calculated by the number of days already saved, plus the expected saved days for patients currently active on OPAT.

Read more about the OPAT project.

18-24 November ([link](#))

WHO World Antimicrobial Awareness Week

Questions may be directed to [Andrea Marlow](#).

How can my trust replicate OPAT bed day savings and better outcomes?

The OPAT pilot demonstrates viable solutions for decompressing hospital pressures – particularly important given rising demands, winter pressures, and busy staff.

Specialised services have historically been discrete from wider hospital services. This project shows how specialist clinical input for patients can result in operational savings and better patient outcomes, proving the aims of the integration agenda.

It also creates learning opportunities beyond interventions provided by specialists, through the expert advice across pathways and other disciplines.

By involving clinicians in the referral process, they can evaluate appropriate candidates for OPAT or discharge.

This not only frees up hospital beds, but provides patient care closer to home and contributes towards antimicrobial stewardship.

Target:

1,800

bed days saved

between

Sep 2022 and Jan 2023

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Saving lives and raising heart valve awareness in Peckham

Addressing ethnic inequalities in treatment of aortic stenosis
Reducing variances in access and treatment for diverse populations
plus increased public education and awareness

The Peckham heart awareness event was held on 1 November, having rescheduled due to the Queen's passing. This collaborative public engagement event between the South London Cardiac ODN, South East London ICS, local council and Healthwatch, with national charity, Heart Valve Voice, brought health checks to people in Peckham.

People boarded the Your Heart Matters bus where clinical teams checked their hearts for abnormalities requiring follow up. People were also offered flu and Covid vaccines, plus a blood pressure check.

Of the 322 hearts checked, 52 people were found to have a heart murmur or requiring further tests, and two people were sent to A&E. Those who were found positive received information to take to their GP to have them refer the patient in to the heart valve service for further investigation.



Watch as Prof Phillip MacCarthy tells Sky News why early diagnosis of heart valve is so important. ([link](#))

322
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52
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2
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25
blood
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30
flu jabs

30
Covid
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Network overview

Addressing heart valve disease in Black African and Black Caribbean communities

Clinicians in the South London Cardiac Operational Delivery Network (ODN) tackle the underrepresentation of Black African and Black Caribbean communities in South East London in the diagnosis and treatment of heart valve disease.

The Cardiac ODN is working with Mabadiliko, a third sector expert in inclusivity and equity, to understand behaviours and attitudes that impact care within the Black African and Caribbean communities.

Linking this work to ICB activities, the insight and report will provide the basis to create resources for the health system to better serve this underserved population, as well as influencing the national healthcare inequalities improvement programme.

The report findings are expected to be published by December.

The projects on pages 4 and 5 are influencing the establishment of the mobile valve clinics, working with Lewisham GP practices. Referral criteria, host GP practices, recruitment, and resource requirements are in their finalising stage ahead of the upcoming launch.

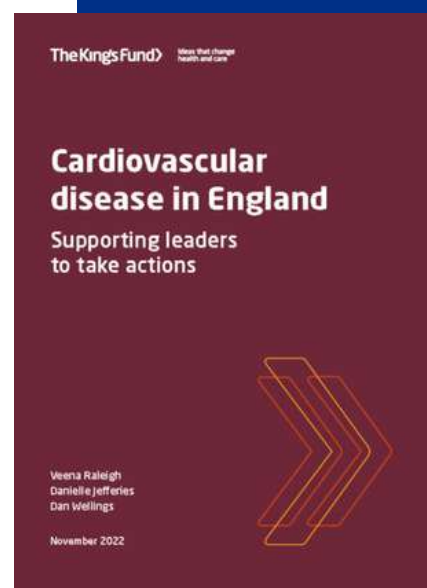
South London Cardiac ODN case study featured in new King's Fund report

The South London Cardiac ODN was one of just six case studies selected for inclusion in new The King's Fund report, *Cardiovascular disease in England*, published this month.

The network project which seeks to tackle the under-representation of Black African and Black Caribbean communities in South East London in the diagnosis and treatment of heart valve disease (*left*), can be found on page 45 of the report.

The report provides insight into why cardiovascular disease must be a priority -- and actions for national and local leaders to take to address it.

[Download the report.](#)



Transformation

South London pilot updates

1 December
World AIDS Day

Blood borne virus screening in EDs

Expanding opt out testing of blood borne viruses in EDs

- Hepatitis B is endemic in the UK. Identifying hepatitis B early helps to prevent patients from having cirrhosis, liver cancer & liver transplants. This is very relevant for London, where liver services have year on year growth of 20%.
- NHS England has provided funding to expand testing to include hepatitis B and C screening for through 2024. South London sites have started to launch hepatitis testing this month.
- All three South London tertiary sites -- King's College Hospital, St George's Hospital, and St Thomas' Hospital -- have gone live.
- Enquiries may be directed to [Kathryn Harrop](#).

160,000

HIV tests in South London

£4.40
average test cost

1 diagnosis made per
2,875
tests- or £12,650

Each diagnosis saves
£145,000
through better management and reduced transmission

55 new people diagnosed with HIV

£7.7M saved
(future costs)



The gastroenterology and hepatology team launches hepatitis B and C opt out testing at St Thomas' Hospital 1 November.

Event: Lost to follow up for HIV care

Join us on 24 November (13:30 – 18:00) to examine the scale of this important issue, share best practice and bring together key stakeholders. This meeting is relevant for HIV clinicians and researchers, policy makers, data scientists and third sector organisations. [Register online](#)

Transformation

South London pilot updates

Renal

Clinical pathways published

The London Kidney Network (LKN) published *Primary care chronic kidney disease (CKD) early identification and optimisation pathways* at a recent webinar with 160 attendees.

The pathways were developed by multi-disciplinary teams from across London and Surrey as part of our CKD prevention workstream.

Local implementation plans are being developed through ICS renal networks, including SE and SW London, supported by the LKN Prevention team. The Renal Services Transformation Programme will include LKN CKD Pathways in the upcoming national best practice toolkit.

Strategic support tool development

The LKN Business Intelligence team continue to develop the LKN demand and capacity model, in conjunction with NCL ICS, ahead of a wider pan London rollout.

The model uses validated prevalent renal activity data and provides tools to forecast strategic demand and capacity at five and 10 years. This supports trust and ICS level planning for capacity (estate and workforce), and links with clinical pathway transformation plans, such as increasing transplantation and home therapies, as mitigation. The model is being developed to create an 'OPEL style' Kidney Early Warning System (KEWS) to enable better dialysis resilience planning and mutual aid.

Local system integration

The LKN is supporting the development of ICS based local renal networks to take ownership for delivery of improvement and transformation.

Integrated into local ICS governance and focused on local priorities and population health needs. Membership includes primary and secondary care clinical leads, ICS, LKN and renal unit directors.

Diversity in clinical leadership

We are proud to announce the appointment of new LKN Transplant Workstream Clinical Co-Chairs, a multi-disciplinary triumverate including nephrologist, transplant surgeon, and senior transplant nurse. Together they will provide a unified transplant approach to improve outcomes for patients in London and referring centres from the South East and East of England.

The process is supported by NHS Blood and Transplant and the British Transplant Society, and sets a new benchmark for collaborative leadership.

Enquiries may be sent to Nicola Cunningham, nicola.cunningham14@nhs.net

The commissioning and funding landscape is changing.

South London ICSs and tertiary providers have taken the opportunity to work collaboratively to integrate specialised services and deliver an end to end pathway approach for patients.

Integrated care systems (ICSs) in England are taking on delegation of specialised services from NHS England. The South London programme ensures the necessary infrastructure and operating models are in place to achieve success for our patient populations.

South London partners

- [Guy's and St Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust](#)
- [King's College Hospital NHS Foundation Trust](#)
- [St George's University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust](#)
- [South East London Integrated Care System](#)
- [South West London Integrated Care System](#)
- [The Royal Marsden NHS Foundation Trust](#)

[Download the overview.](#)

Want to know more?

Would you like more information on specialised services delegation?

We would be happy to speak with you and your colleagues to answer any questions you may have.

[Contact the team.](#)