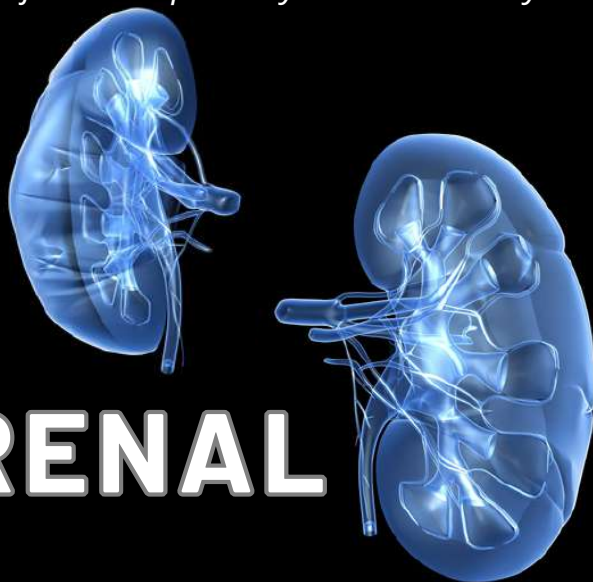


£20M

investment for ICBs agreed by NHS
England to address priority pathways

£10M for each speciality area over two years (2023/24 and 2024/25)



RENAL

SICKLE CELL



INSIDE

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Transformation

Specialised pilot updates

- Cardiac
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NHS England prioritises renal and sickle cell pathways

We are delighted to announce £20M of investment funding has been agreed by NHS England national and regional teams to address renal and sickle cell pathways across the five integrated care boards (ICBs) in the capital as priority areas for transformation.

This £20 million investment for London -- £10M per specialty -- will enable innovative pilot initiatives to progress over two years (2023/24 and 2024/25).

The SLOSS team has facilitated collaboration across the system to develop proposals that meet local need, based on thorough analyses of data, services, and potential opportunities.

NHS England updates

NHSE specialised priorities: Renal

The NHS England regional specialised commissioning team will invest £10 million into renal pathways for London – up to £2M per ICB – over two years.

Proposals for funding were developed in collaboration across ICB teams through a new group convened for this transformation initiative across London, including members from ICB specialised teams, SLOSS, NHSE London medical directorate, and London Kidney Network (LKN).

Working together, ICBs developed pilots at local level, using existing structures and programmes such as local kidney networks, clinical reference groups, and ICB long term condition programmes. The pilots aim to create “steps to the left” towards preventative care and a future integrated pathway. This collaboration has provided a focal point to bring system partners together to share thinking, learn from each other, and help the evolution of bids in a very tight timescale.

The LKN have facilitated conversation and guided bids to identify areas for transformation across the full kidney pathway. Bids were developed through:

- LKN multi-disciplinary clinical renal expertise in primary and secondary care,
- Patients and experts by experience,
- National Renal Services Transformation Programme (RSTP) and Getting it Right First Time (GIRFT) plans, and
- Local priorities.

The LKN have been involved in the development of the proposals and will continue to support ICBs in their pilot development and delivery, including by facilitating communities of practice around core pilot themes.

The developed proposals were shared with the NHSE London regional team on 3 May. Proposals were reviewed by the London Joint Committee on 10 May, and two years of funding (2023/24 and 2024/25) for renal pathways was approved.

Building on the transformation collaborative, London-wide governance is underway to ensure that the proposed pilots deliver to plan. The work will span ICB and London levels to maximise impact, with pan London learning collectives that develop models underpinned by key themes.



NHS England updates

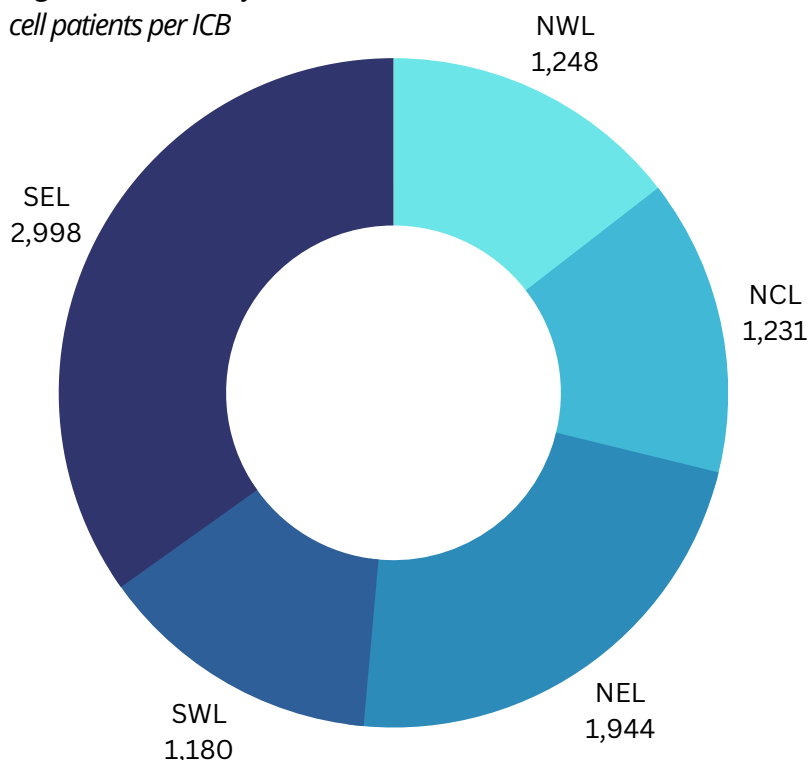
NHSE specialised priorities: Sickle cell

National and regional NHS England investment has been allocated – £10M for London, or up to £2M per ICB over two years – for pilots in the sickle cell pathway focussed on community models.

Pilot proposals were collaboratively developed by the five London ICBs, haemoglobinopathy coordination centres (HCCs) and NHSE London stakeholders. Pilots will span 2023/24 through 2024/25.

Proposal criteria aimed to address **community care provision**, building both on existing care specifically for people with sickle cell, and other community care services, such as community matron, MDTs, anticipatory care models, and existing virtual ward programmes.

Registered number of sickle cell patients per ICB



SICKLE CELL

At a glance

- Sickle cell disease is the most common genetic condition in England, with **17,000 people** living with the condition.
- It is a **serious and potentially life limiting** condition and predominantly occurs in **people of Black ethnicity**.
- Every ICS in England has **registered patients** with sickle cell.
- The **highest sickle cell prevalence** areas are South East London, Birmingham and Manchester due ethnically diverse populations.
- **London has the majority** of people with sickle cell, either as residents (52%) or accessing care from a provider in London (65%).
- Half (52%) of all people with sickle cell are **registered with a London GP**.
- There are **300 babies** are born with sickle cell each year.

The failure to join up pathways across NHS England and ICB commissioned services has led to failures of care and entrenched health inequalities, as outlined in reports by the All Party Parliamentary Group on Sickle Cell and the NHS Race Observatory.

NHS England updates

NHSE specialised priorities: Sickle cell

South East London

Community model

SEL proposed a community model based on the existing service at Wooden Spoon House, which currently provides antenatal screening and early years support, with significant expansion to support children and young people and adults, for a person-centred approach.

South West London

Community model

A model is emerging with Central London Community Healthcare NHS Trust (CLCH) coordinating delivery of services. It will focus on collaborative and enhanced provision of specialised community nursing for both adults and children.

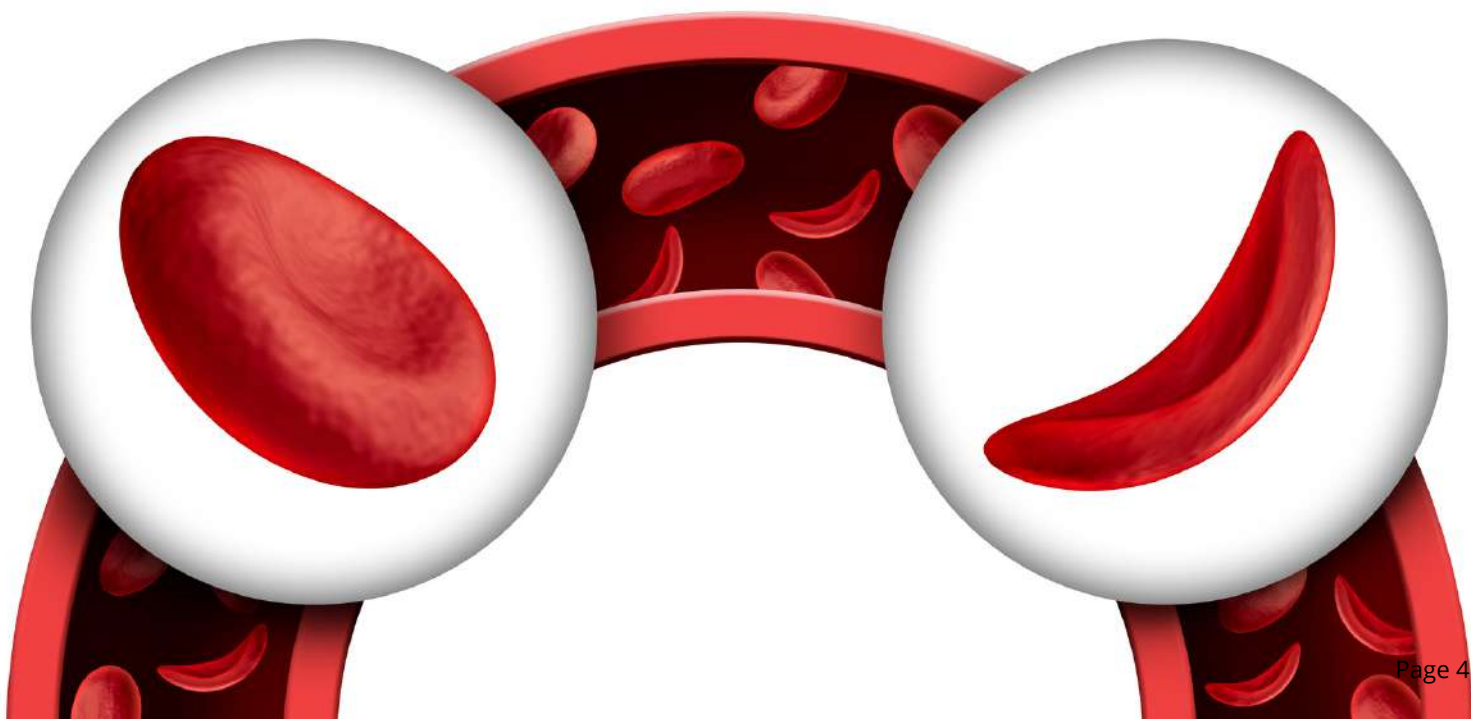
SICKLE CELL

HCCs

There are four London haemoglobinopathy networks. These networks include haemoglobinopathy coordination centres (HCCs), specialist haemoglobinopathy teams (SHTs) and local haemoglobinopathy teams (LHTs).

Note that these networks do not align to ICB footprints. SEL sites are within the SEL and South East region network; SWL falls within the West London network.

- **South East London and South East:** King's College Hospital NHS Foundation Trust in partnership with Guys and St Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust
- **West London:** Imperial College Healthcare NHS Trust in partnership with London North West University Healthcare NHS Trust and St George's University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust
- **East London and Essex:** Barts Health NHS Trust
- **North Central London and East Anglia:** University College London Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust in partnership with Whittington Health NHS Trust and North Middlesex University Hospital NHS Trust



NHS England updates

NHSE specialised priorities: Sickle cell

Proposal outcomes

Signoff

The proposals were shared with the National Health Inequalities Team (UEC) and the NHSE London regional team (community care).

Funding

Two years of funding for sickle cell community services was approved by the London Joint Committee (2023/24 and 2024/25).

Governance

The London Joint London Committee supported a single London governance to support mobilisation, collaboration, problem solving, and coordinated evaluation. The proposed approach would build on the significant engagement to date of London level action and support the consistent delivery of care that we want to provide for all people living with sickle cell in the capital.



London wide support

As part of the community models of care bids, a London-wide peer to peer programme is included. It will be delivered by the [Sickle Cell Society](#) for children and young people between the ages of 10 to 24 living with sickle cell. The model is an innovative social model of care, aiming to support and educate this cohort of young people.

South London programme updates

SAFG: Linking finance, BI, and analytics

The recent Systems Analytics and Finance Group (SAFG) meeting overviewed proposals for sickle cell and renal services, as part of the NHSE London priority pathways within its investment fund (see pages 2-4).

The South London Cardiac Operational Delivery Network (ODN) requested SAFG member views into the next phase of its collaborative procurement projects. Contracts in cardiac products have yielded nearly £9 million over four years to trusts and NHSE, and the network is exploring opportunities in their extension.

Year 2: Specialised transformation pilots

Funding has been secured to continue Year 1 pilots. These will be continued or expanded in Year 2:

- Aortic stenosis – South London Cardiac ODN funding plus industry sponsorship
- OPAT – KCH has funded a further pilot year
- Blood borne viruses – NHSE funding
- Chronic neurology – SLOSS transformation funding

About SAFG

The SAFG is co chaired by Steven Davies, Chief Financial Officer, Guy's and St Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust and Helen Jameson, Chief Financial Officer, NHS South West London ICS.

The group targets senior leadership, contracting, and business intelligence (BI) leads across trusts, ICBs, and NHS England, and serves as the engine room for the South London specialised programme, identifying future opportunities for the system with an understanding of historic financial intelligence and activity.

Webinar: Can specialised commissioning reforms help strengthen research and innovation in the UK? (1 June)

Join the webinar on 1 June (15:30-16:30) to discuss, *Can specialised commissioning reforms help strengthen research and innovation in the UK?*

Led by the Shelford Group and the Federation of Specialist Hospitals, and chaired by Professor Ian Abbs, chief executive of Guy's and St Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust, the session will explore how the changes taking place in specialised commissioning can drive improvements in research and innovation.

Details and online registration.



South London programme updates

South London Pathfinder

MOU: NHSE and Pathfinder

A memorandum of understanding (MoU) has been developed to detail the exact scope of the Pathfinder and the changes to transactions in finance, data and contracting that will be directed to the ICBs to undertake on behalf of the joint working arrangements (JWA) in place between NHSE and ICBs for 23/24.

As NHSE retains financial and other risks through the pathfinding process, it is important that NHSE teams have sufficient detail on all of the changes to transactions in each of finance, data and BI so that NHSE governance can confirm it has assessed any residual risk and is content to own it through the pathfinder period.

The final MOU will be cascaded through formal ICB and NHSE structures for sign off.

Pathfinder learning

The Transactional BI workstream is creating a "lessons learned" register, which highlights various situations and recommendations for teams to address.

Each Programme Board meeting closes with five key messages, providing the wider context for ICB development and items for consideration.

Both are available on the Pathfinder pages within the [Specialised Services Future Commissioning Model workspace](#) on FutureNHS (login required).

Are you ready?

3 JULY

Pathfinder go live



WHAT IS PATHFINDER?

The South London Pathfinder programme was established to test the delegation processes and national products in a safe and managed way, supporting the design of the delegation model and safe transition of this £20B responsibility to ICBs in England from April 2024.

[Download the South London Pathfinder overview.](#)

South London programme updates

South London Pathfinder

Programme Board

The Pathfinder Programme Board received key updates on the three workstreams, Finance, Contracting, and Transactional BI. Additional discussions of note were the development of a memorandum of understanding (MOU) to support programme delivery, and a quality update / draft framework.

Quality

Although quality is not included in the scope the Pathfinder, Programme Board members were keen to hear about a new quality management framework being developed alongside finance, BI and contracting.

Angela Kelly, Head of Quality and Nursing, National Specialised Commissioning for NHS England, explained how quality management is anticipated to incorporate current and future responsibilities across partners under delegation.

Transactional business intelligence (BI)

Work continues to unblock access and identify required datasets:

- Transactional BI (linking data processing and warehousing organisations to Pathfinder work)
- Information Governance (IG) (adhering to all IG requirements now and for future ICBs)
- Data access/quality (documentation and cause analysis of issues, plus consideration for additional datasets needed)
- Allocations setting data (Reconciliation in the Task and Finish group provides confidence with the 19/20 rebasing exercise and 23/24 baseline calculation; focus will next move to 23/24 uplifts)

**Contact us for
further details or to
present to
your team**

3 JULY

Finance

Whilst national discussions and the legal framework within which the Pathfinder will operate are confirmed, the workstream group has progressed:

- Cashflow and financial reporting (transactions through ICB ledgers, reporting of expenditure)
- Communications to providers (explaining the new arrangements and responsibility)
- Spec comm pilots (source and application of funds, cashflow and in year financial management)
- Local engagement (ensuring finance, BI and contracting colleagues are fully informed)

Contracting

Key to this workstream is the understanding and communication of commissioning and contracting flows, modelled through and overlaid with finance funding streams, including the application of the elective recovery fund (ERF). A recent workshop was held to define contracting schedules from the contract form and model, as agreed with NHSE.

Transformation

South London pilot updates

Cardiac

Embedding OPAT at KCH

The OPAT pilot and its outcomes were presented to the King's College Hospital (KCH) Investment Board in April, seeking to employ staff on an ongoing basis to ensure the benefits received will continue in future as business as usual.

The board agreed to fund the OPAT service for another year, and will revisit the KPIs and service improvement in future.

With the additional workforce, the OPAT service can expand to ensure all suitable patients are discharged on OPAT. The addition of an OPAT pharmacist to the team supports further review of pharmacy data to identify patients in the hospital suitable for OPAT, oral antibiotics or even reduced / ceased antimicrobial courses.

The team continues to uncover ways to streamline data collection that will continue demonstrating the benefit of this service.

WHAT IS OPAT?

Outpatient parenteral antimicrobial therapy (OPAT) is a method of giving antibiotics and other similar medicines through a vein (intravenously).

It is used to treat infections in patients who are well enough to be discharged from hospital and can safely receive treatment in their own home.

King's College Hospital's OPAT service aims to increase the number of patients who are taught to self-administer antibiotics at home, which will allow benefits to the patient (care closer to home and a better experience) whilst simultaneously returning benefits to the trust (increased capacity and reduced costs).



Transformation

South London pilot updates

Cardiac

Detecting aortic stenosis in the community: Launching mobile valve clinics

South East London treatment rates for severe aortic stenosis (AS) in the Black population in remain disturbingly low, and mortality rates for untreated disease remain concerningly high.

Societal and cultural factors contribute to this. One way to break down these barriers is through greater access to echocardiography to diagnosis AS in this population.

The Valve Inequity Steering Group is now focussed on the upcoming launch of these mobile community valve clinics in Lewisham. Working with primary care networks (PCNs), they aim to establish clinics at up to eight Lewisham GP practices or community sites, with each site holding a clinic once a month.

With a few sites already signed up, the team are looking to set up clinics across the entire borough to ensure they are easily accessible for patients.

Mobile valve clinics

Benefits to patients

- Rapid access diagnostics closer to home
- Accelerated referral to King's College Hospital for follow up
- Nurse support for better decision making



South London
Cardiac Operational Delivery Network

Lewisham: Community valve clinic

South East London treatment rates for severe aortic stenosis (AS) in the Black population in remain disturbingly low, and mortality rates for untreated disease remain concerningly high.

Societal and cultural factors contribute to this. Together we can breakdown barriers. One way is through greater access to echocardiography to diagnosis AS in this population.

Sign up now to be part of our new mobile valve clinics to provide your patients with faster referral and intervention for heart valve disease.

Heart valve care near home

We are currently seeking up to 8 Lewisham GP practices to host a heart valve clinic once a month.

GPs refer to these mobile valve clinics through eRS using a simple form. Patients get seen quicker for rapid diagnosis and intervention of heart valve disease.

Requirements

The only request from GPs is for a room to host the clinic one day a month.

We will provide the echo machine and staff (nurse, electrophysiologist). Your team would just be asked to let clinic staff know of patient's arrival for their appointment.

→ Benefits to patients

- Rapid access diagnostics closer to home
- Accelerated referral to King's College Hospital for follow up
- Nurse support for better decision making

→ Benefits to GPs, system

- Impact health inequalities across your population
- Reduced wait times for echocardiograms for suspected AS / valve disease patients
- Cultural sensitivity training for teams
- Stronger relationships across primary care and King's College Hospital

REGISTER NOW TO BECOME A CLINIC



kch-tr.community-valve-clinic@nhs.net

www.slcn.nhs.uk/mobilevalveclinics

Learn more:
slcn.nhs.uk/mobilevalveclinics

Benefits to the system

- Impact health inequalities across your population
- Reduced wait times for echocardiograms for suspected AS / valve disease patients
- Cultural sensitivity training for teams
- Stronger relationships across primary care and King's College Hospital

Transformation

South London pilot updates

Blood borne virus screening in EDs

HIV

Establishing the South London HIV Network

We are delighted to have established a HIV Network in South London, led by two newly appointed clinical leads and with project management support. The team are in the process of defining their priorities for the network and will be surveying clinical leads to ensure consensus around a common purpose.

“South London has a diverse population with high levels of deprivation and health inequalities, and stigma remains a main driver in reducing access to HIV care. We will work closely with colleagues across South London to maximise the successes of existing programmes addressing these factors, such as the Emergency Department HIV testing programme, as well as explore novel ways to improve clinical outcomes for people living with HIV,” said Dr Liz Hamlyn, South London HIV Clinical Lead (SEL) and HIV Consultant at King’s College Hospital.

Dr Lisa Hamzah, South London HIV Clinical Lead (SWL) and HIV Consultant at St George’s Hospital added, “The opportunity to expand, consolidate and formalise a network across South London will enable sharing, dissemination and development of knowledge, best practice and benchmarking to improve and standardise patient outcomes. We will set objectives for service delivery and establish the metrics we can use to measure and track outcomes without creating extra burden for busy HIV clinics.”



Dr Liz Hamlyn



Dr Lisa Hamzah

300,000

HIV tests done across South London
(Apr 2022 - Mar 2023)

120

patients newly
diagnosed with HIV

164

patients newly
diagnosed with
hepatitis B*

52

patients newly
diagnosed with
hepatitis C*

80%

testing uptake of eligible
SWL patients having blood
tests in ED – up from 42%

9

Of 10 South London EDs have launched hepatitis B
and C testing -- with University Hospital Lewisham
and Queen Elizabeth Hospital launching 9 May

*Since testing commenced in South London (November 2022)

Enquiries may be directed to Kathryn Harrop, Kathryn.Harrop@gstt.nhs.uk.

Transformation

South London pilot updates

Neurology

Recruitment open: FND care advisor

We are currently recruiting a clinical teammate to ensure holistic care for patients that links up pathways, colleagues, and patient needs in functional neurological disorder (FND).

An **FND care advisor** will support patients in the region with complex FND in accessing and navigating care. This is an exciting new post to work seamlessly with patients across specialist and community care environments in South West London and Surrey and the regional specialist unit at St George's Hospital.

FND is a medical condition in which there is a problem with the functioning of the nervous system and how the brain and body sends and/or receives signals and can encompass a wide variety of neurological symptoms, such as limb weakness or seizures.

[View details and apply online.](#)

Closing date: 4 June

New clinical appointments

The Network is delighted to report the following regional clinical role appointments:

Regional epilepsy MDT coordinator – Amy Stone will be working with the epilepsy network, to provide team coordination and pathways support to establish weekly regional MDTs.

Myasthenia gravis CNS – Clinical nurse specialist (CNS) Shelly Rodriguez will support patients with myasthenia gravis, a neuromuscular disease, across the region in this clinical nursing specialist role.

Collaborating with MND Association for a regional network

We are submitting an application to the [Motor Neurone Disease Association \(MNDA\)](#) to establish a regional care and research network.

The application seeks up to four years of funding to support a network care coordinator post, who would work across the region to improve coordination, quality of care and access to research for people living with MND.

Recruitment open: MND care coordinator

The new MND care coordinator post will support seamless care for patients across specialist and community care environments in South West London and Surrey and the regional specialist motor nerve clinic at St George's Hospital.

[View details and apply online.](#) Closing date: 5 June



WHAT IS MND?

Motor neurone disease, or MND, affects the nerves known as motor neurones.

Messages from the motor neurones gradually stop reaching the muscles and this leads the muscles to weaken, stiffen, and waste – which can affect how those with MND walk, talk, eat, drink, and breathe.

MND is life-shortening and there is no cure. Symptoms can be managed to help achieve the best possible quality of life.

Transformation

South London pilot updates

Neurology

WORLD MS DAY 30 MAY



World MS Day - 30 May

A day to celebrate global solidarity and hope for the future

World MS Day, 30 May, brings the global multiple sclerosis (MS) community together to share stories, raise awareness and campaign with everyone affected by MS.

The 2020-2023 World MS Day theme is 'connections'. MS Connections is all about building community connection, self-connection and connections to quality care. We are challenging social barriers that leave people affected by MS feeling lonely and socially isolated. Together, we advocate for better services, celebrate support networks and champion self-care.

Change the future, find your #MSConnections.

MS champion post

We are collaborating with the MS Trust to develop an Advanced MS Champion post as part of their wave 2 pilot.

The role would work across teams to deliver a joined-up care plan for people living with a complex set of symptoms. Wave 1 results can be found in the link below.

[View the Advanced MS Champion pilot results](#)

Developing dashboards for greater insight

Working with the national team and ICB Population Health Management teams, the network is working with local stakeholders to validate ICB level data into the clinics attended by patients and the treatment received. With this insight, the team will be able to uncover PHM opportunities of impact.

The network is also developing a local epilepsy dashboard for South West London to create robust population views analysing patient numbers, demographics, comorbidities and more for reduced health inequalities.



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 the specialised services programme?

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

[Contact the team.](#)