

# CLAHRCBITE

Brokering Innovation Through Evidence

## **TITLE: An evaluation of the effectiveness of Knowsley Community Cardiovascular Service (CVD)**



**This evaluation was designed to assess how effective the CVD service has been in reaching patients and carers in the community. It examined statistical evidence for reductions in emergency admissions and readmissions ambulance call outs and improvements in secondary care. The project outcome confirmed advances were achieved but highlighted the need for service refinements in area of data acquisition.**

## **Background**

In the year 2010 Cardiovascular Disease (CVD) contributed to 28% of all deaths in the borough. These figures put Knowsley within the top 10% of a total of 328 local authorities and highlight the generally poorer health experienced by residents. They also represent a challenge to health care providers to effectively direct scarce resources to areas of high deprivation. In 2010 Liverpool Heart and Chest Hospital (LHCH) was commissioned to provide a "one stop" consultant led community CVD service throughout Knowsley. By locating the service in neighbourhood clinics it was intended to improve local access, reduce deaths from CVD whilst improving the quality of patients' experiences. In addition, by having a local presence it was expected that clinic non-attendances would reduce and completion rates for rehabilitation would increase.

## **Who was involved?**

The LHCH CVD which comprised clinicians, practitioners and managers. The University of Liverpool also provided staff. Expertise came from Public Health Knowsley and local CCG's. Three public advisors were also involved.

## What did we do?

A member of the CVD Rehabilitation team was awarded a CLAHRC internship and was given the time and resources to manage the day to day running of this project. This information, together with in-house routinely collected patient data, formed the basis of a comprehensive integrated database. We built this information by drawing on:

- a) Internal systems within LHCH, notably a database called ICS Live and the hospital appointment booking system.
- b) Patient details from databases maintained by KCVD community diagnostic services and cardiac rehabilitation.
- c) Knowsley CCG data from the Quality Outcomes Framework GP referral activity data for secondary care.
- d) National datasets in the form of Hospital Episode Statistics.

## What we found and what does this mean?

Examining the analyses of the statistical outputs we observed the following:

- a) Access to the specialist CVD services within Knowsley has increased steadily year on year from 300 cases in 2010 to peak levels of 1500 cases for year 2017. There are however disparities in the level of uptake of CVD services from within the Knowsley borough.
- b) Secondary care activity around CVD has remained consistent despite the overall increase of cases on the CVD register for Knowsley.
- c) Emergency admission rates were significantly reduced after 2010
- d) Patient satisfaction with the service has increased. The data indicate that everyone was happy with their level of care.

## What next?

- Patients and GP satisfaction scores to be integrated as routine KCVD service data.
- Promote better data sharing arrangements across the services
- Quality of the data requires improvement
- Further research into the impact on mortality and morbidity of CVD is required.

## What is NIHR CLAHRC NWC?

The mission of the NIHR CLAHRC NWC is to work collaboratively with Partner organisations and other stakeholders including members of the public to co-produce and conduct high-quality, leadership enhancing, applied research designed to decrease health inequalities and improve the health of the population of the North West Coast.

## Find out more

<http://www.clahrc-nwc.nihr.ac.uk/index.php>

[info-clahrc-nwc@nihr.ac.uk](mailto:info-clahrc-nwc@nihr.ac.uk) / 0151 795 5342

## Partners / Stakeholders

Liverpool Heart and Chest Hospital   
NHS Foundation Trust

