What does an NCD Do?

ARMA Lecture
26th November 2013
Low Back Pain in the New NHS

Charles Greenough
National Clinical Director for Spinal Services
New Medical Directorate

• Sir Bruce Keogh – Medical Director

• Two Deputies – Mike Bewick, ?
Five Domains

1. Preventing Premature Mortality
   Celia Ingham Clark

2. Long Term Conditions
   Martin McShane

3. Recovery from Ill Health or Injury
   Keith Willett
Five domains

4. Ensuring Positive Patient Experience
   Neil Churchill

5. Ensuring a Safe Environment
   Mike Durkin
25 National Clinical Directors

- Major Trauma
  - Chris Moran
- Musculoskeletal Services
  - Peter Kay
- Spinal Disorders
  - Charles Greenough
Clinical Input to Specialised Commissioning

- 75 Clinical Reference Groups (CRG)
  - Specifications, QUIN, QUIP
  - NOT commissioning
- 5 Programmes of Care
  - Trauma, Rachel O’Connor
- Clinical Priorities Advisory Group (CPAG)
- NHS Board
Low Back Pain

Background and Context
2009

NICE Guidance G88

Low back pain: early management of persistent non-specific low back pain
Department of Health

Organising Quality and Effective Spinal Services for Patients

A report for local health communities by the Spinal Taskforce
Points of Agreement

- Pathway of Care
- Simple Therapies
- No Injections
- Combined Physical and Psychological Programme (CPPPP)
- Fusion Surgery
Implementation

Pathway

• No general implementation
Implementation

Simple Therapies

- Manual Therapies – Generally Available
- Exercise Therapies - Patchy Availability
- Acupuncture - Poor Availability
Implementation

No Injection Therapy

• Enthusiastic Implementation!
Implementation

CPPP

• Extremely Limited Availability
Implementation

Fusion Surgery

• General Availability
Why did Implementation Fail?

- No coherent commissioning structures available
- Difficulty of Changing funding flow
- Need for “Champion” in every PCT
- Local opposition of vested interests
New Commissioning Structures

• Direct Commissioning of GPs via 27 Area Teams
• Commissioning of non-specialised services in primary and secondary care by 211 Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs)
• Direct Commissioning of Specialised Services by Specialised Commissioning Directorate of NHS England via 10 of the Area Teams
New Commissioning Structures

- Commissioning Barriers still remain
  - Between GP and CCG
  - Between CCG and Specialised Services
New Commissioning Structures

• Commissioning Assembly allows CCGs and specialised commissioning to interact
Two National Projects

• Pathfinder Project
• NICE Update of G88 Low Back Pain
The Pathfinder Projects

- An initiative of Specialised Commissioning.
- High Value Patient Pathways encompassing GP, CCG and Specialised Care.
- Designed to create seamless pathway from GP consultation through to Specialised Care.
- Serve as a model for other conditions
The Pathfinder Projects

Low Back Pain and Radicular Pain has been selected as the Pathfinder Project for the Trauma Programme of Care Board

Two Components

• Clinical agreement on the Pathway, based on Current Evidence

• Cost Analysis, Case for Change and Commissioning Structures by NHS England
The Pathfinder Projects

Designed to produce implementation of the *Current* Evidence Based Pathway, and implement the Treatments Recommended.

Designed to Promote Implementation of New Evidence in the Future, by Creating Commissioning System to underpin change.
NICE Update of G88

Two Major Changes Proposed

• Removal of the Upper Time Limit of 12 Months
• Addition of Radicular Pain
NICE Update of G88

Progress So Far

• Chair of GDG, Stephen Ward, Appointed
• Draft Scope Out for Consultation, now closed
NICE Update of G88

Some Concern

• Existing Evidence to be “Re-Interpreted”
• GDG Structure
NICE Update of G88

Future Progress

• Aim to Report Early 2016
Role of ARMA?

- Comment on Pathfinder Pathway
  - Invitation to join Clinical Group
- Support Joined Up Commissioning
  - CCGs
  - Community MSKS Services
- Support for Education and Training
- Consistency
NCD Spinal Disorders

Feedback Wanted!
THANK YOU
Discussion