

Health Service Circular



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sets out a specific action on the part of the recipient with a deadline where appropriate

National Service Framework for Coronary Heart Disease

For action by:

- Health Authorities (England)- Chairman
- Health Authorities (England) - Chief Executive
- Health Authorities (England) - Chief Nurse
- NHS Trusts - Chairman
- NHS Trusts - Chief Executives
- Regional Advisers in General Practice
- Social Services Directors - England
- Primary Care Groups/Trusts
- General Practices
- Regional Directors of Public Health
- Health Authorities, Directors of Commissioning
- Regional leads for CHD

For information to:

- Community Health Councils, Chief Officers
- Consortia Business Managers
- Medical Schools - Deans
- Post Graduate Deans
- Local Authority Councils
- Regional Medical Deans

Further details from: Tom Quinn
Wellington House
133-155 Waterloo Road
London SE1 8UG
020 7972 4831
nsfweb@doh.gsi.gov.uk

Additional copies of this document can be obtained from:

Department of Health
PO Box 777
London
SE1 6XH

Fax 01623 724524

It is also available on the Department of Health web site at
<http://www.doh.gov.uk/coinh.htm>

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National Service Framework for Coronary Heart Disease

Summary

1. The National Service Framework for Coronary Heart Disease was published on 6 March. Dr Roger Boyle's appointment as National Director for Heart Disease was also announced. Copies of the associated press releases are attached.
2. Implementation of the NSF was identified as one of the "Saving Lives" priorities in the National Priorities Guidance for 2000/01 to 20002/03. All NHS bodies should now work with their local communities to take this forward.

Action

3.
 - all local NHS bodies should identify an individual with lead responsibility for action on implementing the NSF
 - each Health Authority and its partner organisations should establish a local implementation team and draw up action plans. These should comprise:
 - plans for the NSF immediate priorities – for submission to ROs by 15 May
 - plans for achievement of the October 2000 and April 2001 milestones
 - a comprehensive local delivery plan, to be completed and agreed by October 2000 to feed into the HimP process.
 - PCGs and Ts, NHS Trusts and Health Authorities should come together in local networks of cardiac care to agree clinical pathways and referral criteria.

Background

4. As part of its 10 year programme to modernise health and social care, the Government is developing a series of National Service Frameworks to improve the quality and consistency of services in a number of priority areas. The National Service Framework for Coronary Heart Disease sets 12 clear standards for the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of heart disease which the Government expects everyone to meet over a 10 year period. The NSF defines the milestones to mark progress with each standard, and sets out long term goals. It also identifies areas where rapid and life saving improvement is expected: the "immediate priorities".

5. The new funding announced on 6 March to support implementation of the NSF during 2000-01 consists of:
- £21m (£18m revenue + £3m capital) to improve ambulance response times. Health Authorities should review current performance in collaboration with their local ambulance services and, in consultation with NHS Executive ROs, agree plans for meeting the Category A (immediately life threatening) target by 31 March 2001.
 - £15m (£10m capital and £5m revenue) for rapid access chest pain clinics (at regional level this funding will be made available pro rata to weighted population adjusted for CHD SMR and applications to ROs will be invited)
 - £10m capital for defibrillators and other cardiac equipment (£1m will be available for allocation in each region; there will be £2m nationally for defibrillators and ECG machines for ambulance services, on which further details will follow)
 - £3m (revenue - £6m over 2 years) for a project similar to the Cancer Services Collaborative, to streamline the patient journey through CHD services. There will be close co-operation between this project and the Primary Care Development Team. Details about applications will be issued in the next few weeks.
6. In addition, £20m (£10m revenue, £10m capital) of the £50m funding announced in October 1999 to support increases in revascularisation, is available for 2000/01. Regional Offices have been working with their Health Authorities and NHS Trusts on initial plans to achieve maximum impact with this funding. These plans will be finalised in conjunction with the Service And Financial Framework round, and final allocations will be confirmed as soon as possible.

Associated Documentation

Recipients of this HSC will receive copies of the NSF. Further copies are available from the NHS Responseline (0541 724524). It is also available on the Department of Health website at <http://www.doh.gov.uk/nsf/coronary.htm>. *Modernising Health and Social Services: National Priorities Guidance 1999/00-2001/02 (December 1999)* issued under cover of HSC 1999/242 : LAC 99/38 and *National Service Framework: Coronary Heart Disease. Emerging Findings (November 1998)* issued under cover of HSC 1998/218 : LAC98(29) are also available from the NHS Responseline.

This Circular has been issued by:

Dr Sheila Adam
Health Services Director