

Guide to Cam Health Local Commissioning Group

This short guide is intended to provide you with information about Cam Health Local Commissioning Group.

What is a Local Commissioning Group?

A Local Commissioning Group is the name that has been given to a group of GP practices who have chosen to come together to commission (buy) health services for their local communities.

Cam Health Local Commissioning Group will be responsible for commissioning (buying) NHS services for patients that have been commissioned historically by NHS Cambridgeshire (the primary care trust for Cambridgeshire).

Cam Health Local Commissioning Group will be responsible for commissioning hospital services and community services (for example district nurses) and mental health services for people living in North and West Cambridge, Histon, Bottisham and the surrounding area.

As the pilot project develops we will be able to bring you further information on CamHealth Integrated Health and other GP Commissioners in Cambridgeshire. Updates will be posted on NHS Cambridgeshire's website – www.cambridgeshire.nhs.uk.

Why the move to Clinical Commissioning Groups?

Health services have historically been commissioned by primary care trusts (PCTs). This way of buying in services means that GPs, who are the best placed to advise on their patients needs, have been too far removed from the process.

In 2009/2010 NHS Cambridgeshire reviewed its five year plan and developed a number of priority areas on which to focus. One priority was to work in partnership with GPs to develop a more devolved system of commissioning, which would take into account local knowledge and expertise of GPs.

The health White Paper: Equity & Excellence: Liberating the NHS was published in July 2010. The White Paper reinforces this view, and in time, much of the responsibility for commissioning health services will be given over to GPs.

Priorities for health

Cam Health Integrated Health has been working with NHS Cambridgeshire and other local NHS partners to identify the priorities that patients have said they want from their health care. As part of the pilot scheme it is expected that priorities will be further developed in the coming months.

Below is a list of some of the initial priorities for Cam Health Integrated Health.

Bringing services into the community

- Develop a community based service for the provision of **Dermatology services**.
- Maximise the use of the existing community services such as the community **Gynaecology service**
- Support the development and launch of a community based **Ear Nose & Throat (ENT) service**, which will reduce the number of unnecessary hospital referrals, enabling patients to be treated closer to home

Diabetes Services

- Develop a community based **Diabetes service**.
- The service will include stronger support from Diabetic Specialist nurses and dieticians, and Consultant led clinics in the community for those patients needing this service
- Support patients to manage their conditions themselves.
- Screening of high risk patients will also be stepped up to minimise the onset of diabetes and to help minimise long term conditions

Care of vulnerable people

- Identify vulnerable patients – such as the elderly
- Improve the care and health of vulnerable elderly people
- Work with Hospital, Community and Social services to keep vulnerable patients out of hospital wherever possible, and living independently at home for as long as possible
- Use beds in the community wherever possible and develop a rapid response capability from community services for those patients who need it at times of crisis

Health Promotion

- Help patients to make life style behavioural changes – by giving advice and support on smoking cessation, dietary management, exercise and sensible drinking advice.
- Work with partners in public health and the voluntary sector to support patients to help make these life style changes.

GP practices in Cam Health Integrated Health

At present there are eight GP practices who have formed Cam Health Integrated Health. These are as follows:

- Arbury Road Surgery
- Bottisham Medical Practice
- East Barnwell Health Centre
- Firs House Surgery

- Newnham Walk Surgery
- Nuffield Road Medical Centre
- Cherry Hinton & Brookfields Medical Practice
- Milton Medical Centre

Lead GP

The lead GP in Cam Health Integrated Health is Dr Arnold Fertig who is based at Nuffield Road Medical Centre.

Address details:

Nuffield Road
Cambridge
CB4 1GL

www.nrmc.nhs.uk

What does this mean for patients?

As the Clinical Commissioning Group develops its commissioning the patients will benefit from;

- More local care available for patients
- Greater accountability to patients
- Swifter decision making and change
- More locally developed methods of treatment for patients
- More cost effective services

Further information

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