

Executive summary UNITE Service

Severe asthma patient identification and referral

Hull University Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust and GlaxoSmithKline UK Ltd (GSK) are undertaking a Joint Working Project in Humber Coast and Vale ICS.

The objective is: To improve patient care through identification and review of patients with uncontrolled asthma within primary care; facilitating referral to severe asthma services, for improved access to biologic treatment for appropriate patients with severe asthma. This involves a balance of contributions with the pooling of skills, experience and resource.

The project will include identification of patients with uncontrolled asthma in participating GP practices and Primary Care Networks (PCN) within the Humber, Coast & Vale Coast Integrated Care System (ICS). The patients will be invited for up to 3 virtual reviews by a Respiratory Nurse Advisor. Patients who remain uncontrolled after the reviews will be referred to the Severe Asthma Service.

The project will run from December 2021 until August 2022 (end date is dependent upon the start date of the patient review service, exact end date to be confirmed).

The intended benefits are:

For Patients:

- Early identification of people with uncontrolled asthma, appropriate referral of patients needing further specialist input.
- Improve patient care and outcomes and manage health inequalities by improving access to biologics for appropriate patients with severe asthma.

For the NHS:

- To identify and manage patients at risk of unplanned hospitalisation due to exacerbations from severe asthma.
- To reduce inappropriate referrals helping mitigate risk of limited capacity in the severe asthma clinics.
- To align with the NHS Accelerated Access Collaborative (AAC) initiative to improve access to biologics for people with severe asthma.
- To meet local health needs and priorities of the Integrated Care Systems (ICS) Long Term Plan (LTP).
- To raise the profile of the severe asthma team working in community and the role they can play in delivering asthma care.

GSK:

- To demonstrate successful partnership with the NHS to improve patient care and outcomes
- Increase in identification of patients with uncontrolled asthma, with appropriate referral of patients into the specialist asthma service for specialist input. There may be an increase in asthma medication use in line with national and local guidelines, which may lead to an increase in use of GSK medicines as well as those of other pharmaceutical companies.
- To improve corporate reputation amongst local and national stakeholders.
- To evaluate access and uptake of biologics for severe asthma (including severe refractory eosinophilic EOS asthma), for appropriate patients meeting NICE criteria.

