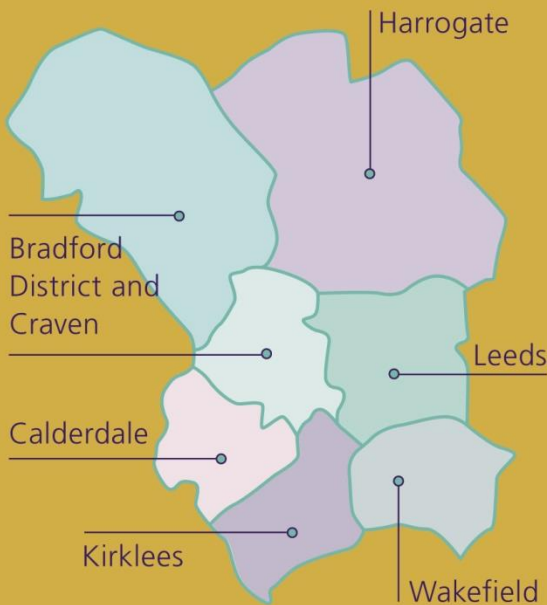


Telling our Partnership story



Proud to be the West Yorkshire and Harrogate Health and Care Partnership

Committed to improving the health and wellbeing of people living in:



- > Working to improve people's health with and for them
- > Improving people's experience of healthcare
- > Making every penny in the pound count
- > Working to keep people well and make life better for 2.7 million people living in West Yorkshire and Harrogate.

West Yorkshire and Harrogate Health and Care Partnership



Assessing the care needs of heart patients

Our ambition

We wanted consultants to be able to assess the needs of heart patients before they are referred onto hospital cardiology services.

It is now possible for consultants to review a patient's record, arrange any necessary tests and talk to the patient about their condition before a referral to hospital is made.

This process can be used to make a shared decision about how the patient's heart condition is managed,

It can help determine if the patient needs to be referred to hospital, or if they can be looked after appropriately by their GP.

This new way of working is reducing the number of requests for unnecessary tests as a result of a consultant's assessment and a discussion with a patient's GP about their care.

As a result of the additional support from consultants whilst patients are under the care of their GP we have seen GP referrals drop by 70%.

What we are doing

Mid Yorkshire Hospitals Trust has designed and implemented a new way for GPs and hospital consultants to manage patient care.

An e-consultation service is available for most GP practices in Wakefield and North Kirklees for GPs to contact consultants at the trust for advice and guidance about their patients.

This approach was developed with clinicians, service leads and managers from across North Kirklees and Wakefield CCGs and the trust using cardiology as the first service to trial this new approach.

To make sure that patients are seen at the right time, by the right person and in the most appropriate way, a consultant can identify the right clinic, most appropriate clinician and the method by which they are seen. This could be face-to-face or via a video or telephone call.

As a result of the new pathway there has been a 30% increase in patient interactions with secondary care clinicians online or over the phone.

What next?

Following the success of the cardiology referral pathway, more specialities have gone live and we will continue to roll this out over the coming months and monitor the outcomes.



The service has already shown significant benefits to clinical teams and patients.

One patient was seen by their GP who requested an e-Consultation, the patient's details were reviewed by a consultant in the hospital who contacted the patient by telephone the same day.

Following a discussion with the patient, new medication was recommended to the GP, which was prescribed less than six hours after the initial e-Consultation request.



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A partnership made up of the NHS, local councils, care providers, Healthwatch, community and carers organisations.

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West Yorkshire and Harrogate
Health and Care Partnership

