

Community Phlebotomy Service

A Phase 1 mobile blood service to be operated across Gwent, staffed by band 3 HCSWs responding to the requests for venepuncture and undertake these on behalf of District Nurses wherever possible



Background

- **35%** of the total referrals to District Nursing from an audit undertaken between March and August 2014 were for venepuncture according to the Wales Audit Office Review of District Nursing in ABUHB (February 2015)
- **63** referrals for venepuncture were made to District Nursing in Newport on 16th April 2015

Project aims

The aim of the proposal was to release District Nurse time to:

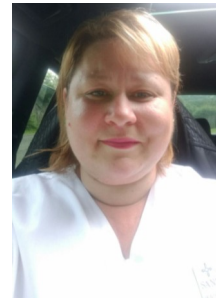
- Undertake a structured approach to the **flu campaign** in September/October 2015
- Support **Practice Nurses** with the flu campaign
- Support **other immunisation campaigns** such as shingles
- Undertake **Long Term Conditions** screening
- Enable District Nurses to up-skill by completing the 6 month **wound care training**
- Support **complex** patients
- **Support patients** and the **Primary Care Teams** by undertaking other identified training to up-skill

Project outcomes

- **Community Nursing Dashboard** will collect data for each Health Care Support Worker and report to the NCNs and Welsh Government
- **6 and 12 month** review periods for evaluation of the service.

What we did...

- Employed a team of Community Phlebotomists to work across ABUHB: **3 staff** appointed in Blaenau Gwent, Monmouthshire and Torfaen (2.33 WTE), **6 staff** appointed in Caerphilly (3.50 WTE), **5 staff** appointed in Newport (3.50 WTE)
- Health Care Support Worker **competency training** arranged



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Evaluation

- NCN identified funding was not used during 2015/16 due to **slippage in timescales** for the development of the roles and the recruitment of staff
- Recurrent top-sliced funding was **agreed and committed** for 2016/17, which will enable **management and monitoring** of the service during this period
- Now in place and operational, the Community Phlebotomy Team **frees up District Nursing time** which was previously allocated to venepuncture
- More time is available for staff **development** and to **support** other areas within their remit