

THE PAEDIATRIC CONTINENCE FORUM

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES FOR YEAR 3 (Nov 2010- Oct 2011)

Draft

To be read in conjunction with the "Tactical Plan".

1 STRATEGIC AIMS (The difference we want to make)

a) To increase awareness and understanding within the government and amongst service commissioners, managers and practitioners of:

- a. The need for integrated, community-based paediatric continence services to be available to children and parents nationally and on an equal basis
- b. The key elements in the design of such services
- c. The strategic changes needed to create such services
- d. Examples of integrated services that have been successfully delivered, demonstrating greater efficiency and better patient care
- e. Evidence of services that are under pressure due to NHS cutbacks
- f. The need to drive forwards practical solutions that provide improved patient care through better efficiency.

b) To improve the level of integration of existing community-based, paediatric continence services nationally and to establish new services where necessary in order to move towards a fully integrated service within each PCT.

c) To increase the dissemination and implementation of the full NICE Guidelines on bedwetting and constipation and the NICE Guideline on the commissioning of paediatric continence services.

d) To ensure that the 1999 School Premises Regulations governing water and toilet provision and access for children in schools are updated to an acceptable standard and have an effective mechanism for enforcement.

e) To respond to other issues as necessary.

3 STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES (What we will do to achieve the aims)

Relating to aims a) b) c) and d):

- **Maintain strong action-orientated programmes of contact with Parliamentarians, designed to:**
 - **Generate awareness and understanding amongst MPs and Peers of:**
 - Paediatric continence and the conditions closely associated with it
 - The particular needs of children with continence difficulties and their families and carers
 - The model of integrated continence services for children (the two Exemplars)

- The current pressure on paediatric continence services. Provide evidence of service cutbacks and poor levels of service delivery
 - Examples of successful working models of integrated services
 - The changes needed to improve services in line with the Exemplars at national level and within their constituency
- **Galvanise active support and advocacy for the above through:**
 - Parliamentary processes, including streams of Parliamentary questions and Lords questions, Early Day Motions, Adjournment Debates, letters to Ministers etc
 - Constituency activity to support the improvement of services locally including setting up a regional system of MP “leads”, letters to the local health communities, facilitation of meetings with local decision makers, contact with local health professionals etc
 - Active support of the All Party Group on Continence
- **Regular contact with relevant officials within the Dept Health and Dept Education** to promote the work of PCF, ensure that the NICE Guidelines, the Commissioning Guide and the Exemplars are disseminated; highlight examples of best practice in service integration and evidence of service cutbacks; find ways to include paediatric continence within current government plans and policies; use paediatric continence as a model for other areas of child health.
- **Achieve paediatric continence as a Quality Standard**
- **Maintain and enhance the current audit of paediatric continence services via the NICE audit process and, if kept on by the new government, with Durham Child Health Mapping and ChiMat** – and where possible the Care Quality Commission. Use the national publication of this data via the ChiMat website as a lever to highlight PCTs which are providing poor levels of service.
- **Establish new and maintain existing alliances with related patient and professional bodies** to generate awareness and understanding of the issues and a collective voice to protect paediatric continence services eg Community Practitioners’ and Health Visitors’ Association.

Relating only to aim c)

- To carry out a specific programme to enhance awareness and uptake of the NICE Guidelines on bedwetting and constipation and the Commissioning Guide amongst other stakeholders, patient and professional organisations and Parliamentary and Departmental policy makers.

Relating only to aim d)

- To lobby relevant Ministers relating to the need to include the draft Amendments to the 1999 School Premises Regulations (water and toilets) when reviewing the full set of Regulations.