

## King's Health Partners Cardiovascular *Operational integration*



Integration work continues swiftly, as we progress towards the *one team, two sites* vision for King's Health Partners Cardiovascular.

This briefing aims to keep you informed of operational integration across [King's Health Partners Cardiovascular](#). We welcome your feedback and suggestions.

### KHP Vascular Away Day

There will be a KHP Vascular away day held on Tuesday, 21 January 2020, which will focus on where we are to date, presentations from clinicians, allied health professionals, nursing, finance, and a mindfulness session (to name a few). This event is aimed at all vascular staff across KHP.



Questions may be directed to [Donna Wallace](#), KHP Cardiovascular Project Manager.

### Heart Failure Nurse Specialist Forum

The next HFNS Forum will be held on Wednesday, 12 February 2020, with a focus on adherence to therapy and alleviating anxiety and breathlessness. To register or for more

details, please contact [Sally-Anne Holman](#).

Slides from the [3 October HFNS Forum](#) are now available for download.

## Vascular Industry Forum

The Vascular Industry Forum serves as link between industry and NHS vascular staff to transparently and proactively work together to learn about new products coming to market, research trials, and opportunities for joint working. The 5 November Forum included presentations from:

- Medtronic – Aortic technology
- Jotec / CryoLife – Future of vascular graft technology
- Endovab – CE marked guidewire fixator
- KCI (an Acclivity company) – Wound care

### ***NHS pensions***

There will be a special meeting of the Industry Forum held on Monday, 2 December from 17:30-18:30. This event will feature a discussion aimed at consultant colleagues, focused on NHS pensions, by Paul Baker of [Cavendish Medical](#).

Venue: Large seminar room, Cardiovascular Directorate, lower ground floor, South Wing, Block D, St Thomas' Hospital)

To find out more, email the [South East Vascular Network](#).



### Select workstream updates

Following are a few key highlights from the workstreams. [Contact us](#) for more details.

**Improving referrals** – It is recognised that by improving referrals across KHP Cardiovascular, we can provide our patients with better, quicker care using resources in the most effective manner.

Clinicians across KHP have designed and implemented enhanced clinical triage for GP referrals. Not only will this strengthen our **One Team** working, but it will ultimately enable

development of a single point of access and one waiting list for patients. This will improve access and reduce inequalities for patients, and will support decision making into the appropriate sub speciality for GP colleagues. Enhanced clinical triage is in place across KHP Cardiovascular for heart failure, with arrhythmia and inherited cardiac conditions (ICC) in place at GSTT, and soon to follow at KCH.

Along with this, sits the development of a jointly agreed directory of services (DoS) for KHP (including the PRUH) for greater consistency in detail for heart failure, arrhythmia, and ICC and interventional cardiology, which is replacing general cardiology, as it describes much more accurately what the clinic offers.

**Atrial fibrillation** – The AF group has reached consensus on the secondary care pathway and is in the final stage of signoff for it. The pathway focuses on consistent, protocol-driven, nurse-led services and the importance of early referral to an EP within tertiary care as appropriate.

But the effectiveness of secondary care pathways relies upon appropriately referred patients. Thus, a primary care pathway has been developed depicting what should be referred and what can be managed in primary care. It is out for wide stakeholder consultation across primary care, and it is anticipated it will be signed off this month at the Medicines and Pathway Review Group.

Finally, guidelines for ablation for persistent AF have been signed off. These highlight the role of MDTs in the decision making process, and provide advice on those patients who have had more than two ablations.

**Echocardiography** – The echo team are making great strides towards **One Team** working, where nearly one-fifth of sonographers have taken part in cross site rotations. (Learn [more about KHP passports](#) and complete a request form for cross site working.)

The two teams are standardising how they work across King's Health Partners, and now have common imaging protocols for most echo procedures. The teams have also involved patient groups in redesigning the patient information sheets that accompany some of those protocols.

A joint physiologist led research workstream has been established to uncover differences in how research is managed. The group has mapped a best practice process for initiating research initiatives. Relatedly, a research physiologist model, used by KCH, to increase physiologist involvement in research has been rolled out at GSTT. Building on all of these, the

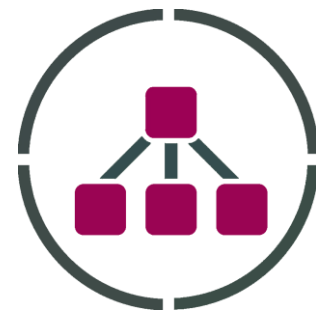
echo team will launch a *Dragon's Den* research competition, currently scheduled for next year.

The echo team has broad engagement across colleagues with strong leadership, though there are still challenges to address, such as not having common reporting and archiving platforms. This is being addressed at GSTT where an IT group are looking at ISCV implementation and storage options.

Enquiries may be directed [Sonia.London@gstt.nhs.uk](mailto:Sonia.London@gstt.nhs.uk).

## KHP Cardiovascular 2019 annual conference

King's Health Partners Cardiovascular held its annual conference on 18 September 2019. Led by Prof Ajay Shah, KHP Cardiovascular Lead, the sessions shared work and success across one team working, research, and innovation. Presentations are [available for download](#), and we encourage you to share the learning with colleagues.



If you would like to provide your thoughts on the day, or if you have ideas on what you would like to see in future, let us know either via [email](#) or the [evaluation survey](#).

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