

Executive Summary

A Collaborative Working Project partnership between Bristol-Myers Squibb [BMS] Pharmaceuticals Limited on behalf of BMS-Pfizer Alliance and South Tees Hospital NHS Foundation Trust

Title: Maximising the opportunity to detect, diagnose, and treat patients with obesity and atrial fibrillation [AF] through implementation of a multi-disciplinary (MDT) based integrated care pathway for local patients.

Name of Project:	Title: Maximising the opportunity to detect, diagnose, and treat patients with obesity and atrial fibrillation [AF] through implementation of a MDT based integrated care pathway for local patients.
Project Overview:	<p>South Tees Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust [STHNHSFT] seek to work in partnership with Bristol-Myers Squibb [BMS] on behalf of BMS-Pfizer Alliance to deliver a 12-month collaborative working project. The collaborative working agreement is between BMS on behalf of BMS-Pfizer Alliance and South Tees Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust [STHNHSFT] to benefit care delivered by this Trust. This partnership will be developed in accordance with the A.B.P.I Code of Practice 2021 [1].</p> <p>The project will focus on maximising opportunities for Atrial Fibrillation [AF] detection, diagnosis, and treatment of patients with obesity and AF through implementation of an MDT based integrated care pathway. The project will be underpinned by the implementation of a local obesity service [OS] and cardiac rhythm management [CRM] service MDT based integrated care pathway developed to mitigate the current unmet clinical need for patients with obesity and AF that are at increased risk of cardiovascular disease and AF-related stroke.</p> <p>South Tees Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust oversees the management of two North East Hospitals, James Cook University Hospital and Friarage Hospital and several community sites. The Trust aims to deliver safety, achieve patient well-being, and deliver quality. Both the Cardiac Rhythm Management service and the Obesity Management service provide trust-based and community-based healthcare service provision across the locality. The Cardiac Rhythm Management service provides specialist clinics for chest pain, arrhythmia, heart failure, cardiac genetics, and adults with congenital heart disease. The Obesity Management Service comprises a specialist weight management service provided by the Health Promotion department and work closely with the bariatric surgery team to support patients who require hospital treatment [2]. The two services currently operate independently at full capacity, with a 26-week wait for patients to be seen post-referral between the two services to facilitate access to the specialist care and intervention that recent evidence has demonstrated can improve cardiovascular outcomes for this specific cohort of patients [3], [4].</p>
Project Objectives:	<p>The overarching aim of the project is to maximise opportunities to detect, diagnose and treat patients with obesity at risk of AF-related stroke through implementation of a MDT based integrated care pathway. The pathway includes risk factor management, psychological and physiological support for weight management for patients with obesity and AF. The project will focus on the following objectives which will underpin delivery of the primary aim.</p> <p>Objective 1: Determine the impact and effectiveness of implementing a ‘detect, diagnose and treatment’ MDT based integrated care pathway for patients with obesity and AF.</p> <p>Objective 2: To understand the experiential learnings of the local service clinical teams of deploying an MDT based integrated care pathway within the Trust.</p> <p>Objective 3: To understand the experience of the AF patient from ‘detection, diagnosis and treatment’ at defined points within the patient pathway.</p> <p>Objective 4: Development of a ‘best practice’ example which supports future obesity and AF service provision across the NHS.</p>
Patient/NHS/BMS on behalf of BMS-	The expected patient benefits comprise:

Pfizer Alliance benefits:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Improved likelihood that patients with obesity at high-risk of AF will be identified within the Trust and appropriately diagnosed and anti-coagulated, thus reducing the risk of AF-related stroke ▪ More rapid implementation of relevant national policy, supporting a population-wide reduction in strokes locally ▪ Help to address the current unmet need will help reach more of the local population and help address health inequalities. ▪ Understanding of patient-based qualitative insights from an obesity and AF patient perspective from detection, diagnosis and treatment and entry into the MDT-based integrated pathway. These insights will inform a future exemplar of best practice. <p>Benefits for BMS on behalf of BMS-Pfizer Alliance: This collaboration between BMS on behalf of BMS-Pfizer Alliance and the Trust will endeavour to evaluate the implementation of an MDT based integrated detect, diagnosis and treatment pathway and develop an understanding of future use of this within other NHS AF services.</p> <p>Benefits for the NHS organisation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Understanding the impact and effectiveness of implementing an integrated pathway across two services to detect, diagnose, and treat patients at risk of AF-related stroke. ▪ Understanding of the experiential learnings of NHS clinical teams, of deploying the integrated care pathway within Trust. ▪ Understanding of the experience of the AF patient from ‘detection, diagnosis and treatment’ at defined points within the patient pathway. ▪ Provide wider learnings to the local health and social care system in relation to the development and implementation of an integrated care pathway.
Stakeholders:	South Tees Hospital NHS Foundation Trust BMS on behalf of BMS-Pfizer Alliance
Funding/Resources:	BMS on behalf of BMS-Pfizer Alliance will provide funding of £96,838.89 and a resource-based contribution of £6,733.35. This provides a £103,572.24 total investment towards the project. South Tees Hospital NHS Foundation Trust will provide £68,780.70 as a resource-based contribution towards the project.
Timelines:	The project will commence from January 2022 and last for a 12-month period.

References:

1. APBI – Code of Practice 2021; published July 2021. [online] Available at: <https://www.abpi.org.uk/our-ethics/abpi-2021-code-of-practice/>. [Accessed 21 October 2021].
2. Southtees.nhs.uk. 2021. *Visions and values | South Tees Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust*. [online] Available at: <https://www.southtees.nhs.uk/about/trust/values/>. [Accessed 21 October 2021].
3. Pathak, RK et al [2015] Long-Term Effect of Goal-Directed Weight Management in an Atrial Fibrillation Cohort: A Long-Term Follow-Up Study (LEGACY). *J Am Coll Cardiology*:65(20):2159-69.
4. Middeldorp ME et al (2018) PREVENTion and regressive Effect of Weight-Loss and Risk Factor Modification on Atrial Fibrillation: The REVERSE-AF Study. *Europace*: 2018 Dec 1;20(12):1929-1935