

October 2013

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Accordion:

University Hospitals Bristol NHS Foundation Trust

The Re-modelling & Expansion of the Bristol Retinal Service

Joint working partner(s) Novartis Pharmaceuticals and University Hospitals Bristol NHS Foundation Trust

Project name: The Re-modelling & Expansion of the Bristol Retinal Service

Joint working project summary:

Wet age related macular degeneration is a rapidly progressing eye disease which results in loss of central vision and difficulty with performing activities of daily living. Current management requires monthly assessments and regular eye injections. The aim of this project is to improve the quality of ophthalmological care through the remodelling & expansion of the Bristol Retinal Service. The objective will be to add capacity to enable provision of Anti-VEGF service for DMO patients, accommodate the growth in wet AMD patient service requirements and improve patient access to new treatments and other ophthalmology specialities such as glaucoma. The new service will require the setting up of a new Hub and Spoke model which aims to allow the ophthalmology unit in Bristol Eye Hospital (HUB) to concentrate on the initial assessment, diagnosis and initiation of treatment for all new retinal patients, and then move the patients into an appropriate “pathway of care” enabling them to undergo follow-up appointments at the Centre (SPOKE) which is closest to their home

Expected patient outcomes for this project:

- Improved patient experience of the service
- Shorter clinic waiting times
- Improved patient journey – treatment closer to home
- Increased access to equitable and consistent care
- Treatment in line with national guidelines

Start date and duration: 18 months Oct 2013 – April 2015. Extended to May 2016.

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