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Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol
Abertawe Bro Morgannwg
University Health Board



Meeting Date	21st February 2019	Agenda Item	6.5
Report Title	Clinical Governance for the Emergency Medical Retrieval and Transfer Service (EMRTS)		
Report Author	Claire Mulcahy, Committee Services Officer		
Report Sponsor	Richard Evans, Medical Director		
Presented by	Richard Evans, Medical Director		
Freedom of Information	Open		
Purpose of the Report	This report sets out the update to the Quality and Safety Committee with regard to clinical governance for the Emergency Medical Retrieval and Transfer Service (EMRTS).		
Key Issues	The hosting agreement with the commissioner requires that matters of clinical governance are considered by the host's Executive Medical Director on behalf of the host's Chief Executive and shared by the Executive Medical Director with the all-Wales Medical Directors' Group and the Delivery Assurance Group for EMRTS. This is in place. Following correspondence with Welsh Government, it was agreed that clinical governance updates would also now be provided to ABMU's Quality and Safety Committee.		
Specific Action Required <i>(please ✓ one only)</i>	Information	Discussion	Assurance
	✓		
Recommendations	Members are asked to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NOTE the report. 		

CLINICAL GOVERNANCE FOR THE EMERGENCY MEDICAL RETRIEVAL AND TRANSFER SERVICE (EMRTS)

1. INTRODUCTION

This report sets out the update to the Quality and Safety Committee with regard to clinical governance for the Emergency Medical Retrieval and Transfer Service (EMRTS).

2. BACKGROUND

The EMRTS service provides advanced decision-making and critical care for life or limb-threatening emergencies which require transfer for time-critical treatment at an appropriate facility.

Hosted by ABMU Health Board, the all-Wales service went live in April 2015 and a governance sub-committee was established shortly after which reports to the Audit Committee.

The hosting agreement with the commissioner (Emergency Ambulance Services Committee [EASC]) requires that matters of clinical governance are considered by the host's Executive Medical Director on behalf of the host's Chief Executive and shared by the Executive Medical Director with the all-Wales Medical Directors' Group and the Delivery Assurance Group for EMRTS at EASC. This is in place.

Following correspondence with Welsh Government, it was agreed that clinical governance updates would also now be provided to ABMU's Quality and Safety Committee.

3. GOVERNANCE AND RISK ISSUES

The EMRTS Governance Sub-Committee met on 7th January 2019 at which it received the clinical governance report for quarter two (July – September 2018).

Members heard that no concerns had been escalated to the external clinical advisory group (ECAG) for review and no clinical concerns had been raised with EMRTS for action.

Following a morbidity and mortality session, a 'lessons learned' bulletin was circulated, and this was also shared with the committee. It summarised key learning points as well as relevant cases.

It was noted that the service has a customised DATIX form for ease of reporting and the entries for the quarter comprised:

- 6 internally reported incidents;
- 22 equipment defect reports;
- 12 written compliments;
- 0 formal complaint.

Within the clinical governance report were updates regarding blood and anaesthesia activity. There had been a total 35 drug assisted airway management cases this quarter and 23 blood product transfusions.

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications for the committee to be aware of.

5. RECOMMENDATION

Members are asked to:

- **NOTE** the report.

Governance and Assurance							
Link to corporate objectives (please ✓)	Promoting and enabling healthier communities		Delivering excellent patient outcomes, experience and access		Demonstrating value and sustainability		Securing a fully engaged skilled workforce
			✓				✓
Link to Health and Care Standards (please ✓)	Staying Healthy	Safe Care	Effective Care	Dignified Care	Timely Care	Individual Care	Staff and Resources
		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Quality, Safety and Patient Experience							
The EMRTS service provides advanced decision-making and critical care for life or limb-threatening emergencies which require transfer for time-critical treatment at an appropriate facility. By providing pre-hospital emergency medicine, it can greatly improve a patient's outcome and experience by providing at the scene interventions normally administered in a hospital setting.							
Financial Implications							
There are no financial implications for the committee to be aware of.							
Legal Implications (including equality and diversity assessment)							
There are no legal implications for the committee to be aware of.							
Staffing Implications							
There are no staffing implications for the committee to be aware of.							
Long Term Implications (including the impact of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 - https://futuregenerations.wales/about-us/future-generations-act/)							
The Well-being of Future Generations Act requires public bodies in Wales 'to think about the long-term impact of their decisions, to work better with people, communities and each other, and to prevent persistent problems such as poverty, health inequalities and climate change'. EMRTS delivers health gains through early interventions (provided outside of normal paramedic practice), which improves the functional outcomes of a patient and increases the number of 'unexpected survivors'. The service also ensures that 95% of the Welsh population will be able to access doctor-led care within 30 minutes by air and 46% within 30 minutes by road.							
Report History	The report is received four times a year following each meeting of the EMRTS Governance Sub-Committee.						
Appendices	No appendices included.						