Paediatric Networks

Adam Beckman
Past President, British Academy of Audiology
March 2014
The BAA – Our Vision

• On behalf of its membership, BAA’s vision is to provide a clear and strong voice for professionals in audiology and to promote excellence in clinical knowledge and practice.
The British Academy of Audiology – our mission statement

- Is the largest organisation for professionals in hearing and balance in the UK
- Provides leadership, inspiration and guidance
- Develops and promotes excellence in services for patients
- Is a driving force for improving quality standards, training and education
- Promotes the profile of audiology as an autonomous profession
The Context

• Specialist Commissioning
  – 143 prescribed services
  – 142 (approx) service specifications

• NHS England Manual States
  – “How the service is organised
    • To be added”

• Opportunity to shape the future
The Context

• Newborn hearing screening
  – Shift to Public Health England
  – Limited and more generic QA
    • Opportunity to shape the future
The Process

• Top-down driven
  – DH/NHS England
• Participants largely by meeting location
  – Midlands, London & South East
• Participatory structure
  – Attempt to facilitate bottom-up involvement
  – “Community of Practice”
The Process

• Scope of the project
  – Originally for PCHI
  – Widened to include all paediatric hearing services
  – Why??

  – Exclusions
    • Balance
The Vision – So Far

• Networks of services – system approach
  – NOT hub and spoke
  – NOT centrally driven
The network around one child

- Social Care
- Education
- Paediatrics
- Local audiology service
- Child & family
- Primary care - GP
- Local ENT Service
- Implant Service
- Community health – health visiting
Aim of the system

• The aim of the system is to enable children and young people to fulfil their social, emotional, communicative and educational potential, by maximising their use of auditory sensory information. Central to this is the facilitation of confident communication. The importance of non-speech environmental sound awareness was also acknowledged, as are the needs of sign language users.
System specification

• Aims
  – Broad
  – Aspirational and achievable
  – Long-term
Objectives

• 12 objectives, including
  – Early identification
  – Rapid and accurate diagnostic testing
  – Prevention
  – Information provision
  – Use of resources
  – Production of annual report
Criteria

• Each overall objective has a number of criteria

• Example – information provision
  – Information is developed in partnership with children, young people and their families to ensure it is appropriate.
Levels of performance for quality standards

• Criteria have performance measures
• Example
  – All families of babies and children with PCHI are given the opportunity to meet other families of deaf children and also contact with older deaf children and adults.
Performance measures

• Away from simple process measures
  – Not all easy to demonstrate
    • All families of babies and children with confirmed PCHI are provided with an explanation of the full range of support available.
  – Focus on outcomes
    • Children with PCHI should have language and communication skills at the key developmental stages comparable to their hearing peers.
Accountability

• Network is accountable
  – Children & families
  – Commissioners

• Demonstrate performance
  – Annual report
    • Comparison of services and networks
    • Demonstrable improvement over time
Where are we now?

• Help of many services
  – Piloted template
  – Can we get the data?
  – Is it easy or difficult?
  – Is it meaningful?

• Floods!
  – Meeting last month cancelled
View from the room

- Who here piloted the templates?
Next Meeting

- March 24\textsuperscript{th}
- More info after that