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Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol
Abertawe Bro Morgannwg
University Health Board

Our Ref: CW/JT/lmf
Date: 26th February 2019

ABMU Health Board
Headquarters
One Talbot Gateway, Seaway Parade,
Port Talbot
SA12 7BR

WHTN: 1787 3302

Policy and Public Affairs Manager
Rheolwr Polisi a Materion Cyhoeddus
Welsh NHS Confederation / Conffederasiwn GIG Cymru

Dear [REDACTED]

Winter Preparedness Response to Health, Social Care and Sport Committee

Thank you for your communication of 30th January 2019 seeking information in respect of clinical pathways that reduce the need to convey patients to an emergency department.

Within ABMU Health Board we have developed services and pathways over a number of years that are reducing the need to convey patients to an Emergency Department.

This can be evidenced through a 7.3% reduction in ambulance conveyances to our hospital front doors between 2017 and 2018, from 42,632 in 2017 to 39,541 in 2018.

You asked for examples of the clinical pathways that are in place within the Health Board area.

These are summarised in Appendix A, attached, along with their impact on admission avoidance.

There has been a particular focus on implementing pre-hospital pathways. We have developed these in conjunction with WAST, Primary Care, Care Homes and Mental Health Services, targeting the high volume demand areas.

Within the hospital environment we have also developed services that avoid the need for patients to attend ED through the provision of direct pathways to clinical services – e.g.

Speciality Hot Clinics, Ambulatory Care Services, expansion of our Medical Day Unit pathways, Cardiology stemi pathway.

Whilst we have reduced the number of patients conveyed by ambulance however, we continue to experience handover delays and we are currently working with the National Collaborative Commissioning Unit to determine on how we can further reduce unnecessary delays.

A priority for our Health Board and our Local Authority partners during 2019/20 will be the development of community discharge capacity through a Hospital at Home model, with the aim of reducing the number of medically fit patients who no longer need acute hospital care but require some ongoing support and care in the community.

I hope this is helpful.

Yours sincerely



CHRIS WHITE
CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER/DEPUTY CEO

◦ Chairman/Cadeirydd: **Andrew Davies**

◦ Chief Executive/ Prif Weithredydd: **Tracy Myhill**

ABM Headquarters/ Pencadlys ABM, One Talbot Gateway, Seaway Parade, Baglan Energy Park, Port Talbot. SA12 7BR.
Telephone: 01639 683344 Ffon 01639 683344 FAX: 01639 687675 and 01639 687676

Bwrdd Iechyd ABM yw enw gweithredu Bwrdd Iechyd Lleol Prifysgol Abertawe Bro Morgannwg

ABM University Health Board is the operational name of Abertawe Bro Morgannwg University Local Health Board

www.abm.wales.nhs.uk

Summary of Key Clinical pathways within ABMU HB

- GP medically expected patients for the Neath Port Talbot and Swansea populations are referred to the Acute GP unit in Singleton hospital, which has on average, a 41% non admission rate. This has improved further recently to circa 50% following the extension of this role as part of the Health Board's winter pressures plan
- Gp medically expected patients for the Bridgend population are referred to the Acute Medical Unit in the Princess of Wales hospital. Circa 470 patients a month attend this unit with a 50% non admission rate on day of attendance.
- Gp Surgically expected pathway to Surgical short stay unit in Morriston hospital. Circa 350 patients a month are avoiding the Emergency Department and are being managed through ambulatory care pathways.
- Cardiac Stemi pathway to the Catheter Laboratory in Morriston hospital for the Mid and West Wales population. Patients are taken directly by ambulance to the Catheter laboratory for immediate clinical intervention.
- GP expected orthopaedic pathway in Morriston - circa 80 patients a month are now avoiding attendance at ED.
- Acute Clinical response teams in the community are supporting patients at home. For example the Neath Port Talbot acute clinical response team supported 752 patients at home between April 1st 2018 and 31st December 2018.
- The WAST control desk is issuing flags on nursing home addresses and referring patients directly to the Acute clinical team to respond instead of WAST.
- St John's ambulance Falls vehicle service. This attends to patients who have incurred a fall at home or in the community. This service has a reported 63% non conveyance rate of individuals to hospital.
- Medical day unit service in Singleton hospital. This service sees an average of 350 attendances per month- patients are referred directly to this service
- The Health board has also developed a number of pathways in conjunction with the Welsh Ambulance services Trust that avoid conveyance of patients to an emergency department. These include the mental health pathway, the resolved epilepsy, hypoglycaemic and falls pathway.
- The Health Board has also funded the provision of advanced paramedic practitioners within WAST who have a non conveyance rate of circa 69%.
- ABMU Health Board successfully implemented the '111' service in 2016 and was the first HB to implement this model. This service plays a vital role in supporting urgent and emergency care out of hours and is able to evidence a positive correlation with a reduction in ambulance conveyances since its inception. The Health Board has also recently provided recurrent funding to enable paramedics to be employed as part of the 111 workforce.

