NHS Tayside Heart Failure Nurse Liaison Service – HFNLS (Nicholls 2012)

Inputs

Investment

Set up costs: None

Operational costs: £202,604 per year (broken down below)

Staffing

- > 3 x Band 7 Heart Failure Specialist Nurse
- > 1 x 0.8 Administrative Support
- > 1 x 0.5 Physiotherapist

Other resources

Clinical supplies

- Training budget
- >Physical resources e.g. office furniture
- Service equipment
- Stationery
- Travel costs

The service

Service use

>Patients with heart failure due to Left Ventricular Systolic Dysfunction (LVSD), either post admission or remain symptomatic/complex at out-patient clinic assessment

Total 515 patients in service 2011-12 Patient discharge if stable >6 months and on optimal medication

Services

Home visiting model: Individual management plan Expert symptom and clinical assessment Optimise medication management Investigations Multi-disciplinary team working across all sectors of care Patient and carer education Self-monitoring Rapid response service Palliative care

Summary of benefits

For service users

>86% of users report stable or improved symptom control based on internationally recognised New York Heart Association classification tool

Reduction in hospital readmissions from 26.7% to 8.3% of LVSD patients

Length of stay reduced by average 4.8 days for those who are admitted

High levels of patient satisfaction with HFNLS measured using University of Glasgow CARE measure tool

For healthcare system

> Hospital admissions costs avoided	£303,518
> CHP primary care costs avoided	£151,410
Annual running cost for HFNLS	- £202,604
Overall costs avoided	£252,324
> Average return on investment	£489 per patient/per year

If referral rates improved:

- Potential overall costs avoided £34
 Potential return on investment £67
- £345-959 £401,257 £671-779 per patient/per year







