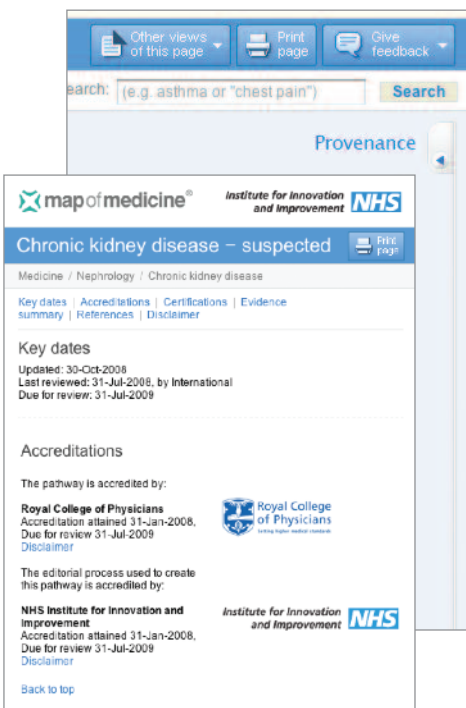


The Pathway

Origin of Map Pathways

The origin of each Pathway is changing so the evidence certificate will now give more detail on the Royal College or professional organisation that has accredited and approved a Map Pathway.



The example above shows how the provenance is highlighted on the Pathway and the linked evidence certificate for Chronic Kidney Disease (CKD).

Currently over 80 Pathways are being actively reviewed by Royal Colleges and professional organisations and these same organisations will review and update over 200 Pathways in 2009 within their area of expertise.

Our aim this year is for all Map Pathways to be republished following a review by the appropriate Royal Colleges or professional organisation.

Early adopters and Map users should check when Pathways they use regularly are due for review as when these review dates come up, republished national Pathways will now clearly highlight the new evidence considered and how this has been graded.

Over 390 Map Pathways now available on NHS Choices website

For the first time the Map has made 392 Pathways available to all patients in England and Wales from NHS Choices at www.nhs.uk

For those outside England and Wales 20 Pathways are available so they can also check treatment options based on best practice.

Continued on page 4



Dr Mike Stein

Medical Director

Dear Colleague,

Last year, more than 25,000 patients died from Venous Thromboembolism (VTE), mainly Pulmonary Embolism (Department of Health, 2007). It is estimated that half of these deaths are preventable. With our continued focus on patient safety, the publication of the VTE risk assessment Pathway as part of a VTE prevention programme led by Dr. Anita Thomas OBE within the CMO Professor Sir Liam Donaldson's office is especially important. The VTE Pathway is now available for use across the NHS and can be accessed from the NHS Choices website (see healthguides.mapofmedicine.com). I hope all NHS organisations will point their trainees and indeed, all clinicians to the VTE Pathway in order to help prevent deaths due to Pulmonary Embolism (see p2).

The Map's role as a valuable reference source for Commissioners was recently highlighted at the NICE 10th Anniversary conference (see p4). While we did not anticipate Commissioning back in 2001, this use is not surprising since the original idea of the Map was to support the re-design of healthcare processes and improved quality of referrals across the care settings. We look forward to further uses of the Map to support patient care!

Best wishes,

Mike

In this issue

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Care UK buys the Map

Prevention of VTE Pathway

New Map film for commissioners

Rollout of the Map in Wales

The Map's Implementation team is now working with the newly formed Healthcare Communities across Wales following the recent re-organisation of the NHS.



Each of these Health Communities will have their own 'View' of

the Map of Medicine so with training they will be able to increase the amount of local clinical and administrative information linked to the new patient pathways and then communicate this information easily across care settings.



Dr Martin Murphy, Clinical Director, Informing Healthcare commented "Map of Medicine is an up to date, evidence based, clinical pathways tool

for NHS Wales, which joins up the patient pathway across primary, community and secondary care and incorporates information on local services".

Map's value in communicating both national and local patient pathways to deliver improvement in care, was made after a two year evaluation across three health communities in Wales – Gwent, Conwy Denbighshire and Bro Morgannwg. They all tested the Map in operational conditions and obtained feedback for IHC that supported a business case for the Map and a national licence.

Nine Pathways have now been published at local and national levels and 18 Pathways are scheduled to publish within the next few months.

As part of the Map's deployment in Wales a communication plan and a toolkit to help Map leads organise awareness and training sessions has been completed.

Staff in Wales should contact Joanna Dundon, National Co-ordinator for the Clinical Pathways Tool, at Joanna.Dundon@gwent.wales.nhs.uk for more details about the toolkit and a communication workshop in January.

Prevention of Venous Thromboembolism (VTE) Pathway

Essential information for the prevention of Venous Thromboembolism has just been published for the first time in the Map.

VTE in hospitalised patients is responsible for approximately 25,000 deaths in England each year and so the Map is an important element of the national VTE prevention strategy led by the Chief Medical Officer Sir Liam Donaldson.

The pathway and information is evidence-based and draws upon clinical guidance from the National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE) and the Chief Medical Officer. It is also available to patients on the Map Healthguides website at NHS Choices.

Dr Mike Stein, Medical Director for the Map of Medicine commented "The pathway for the prevention of Venous Thromboembolism will help clinicians to make appropriate decisions for individual patients on the preventative measures required to prevent avoidable death or chronic illness arising as a consequence of hospital-acquired thrombosis."

The Map and Cancer Pathways

The Cancer Commissioning Toolkit launched in November by the Cancer Action Team contains detailed information helpful in the development of PCT led cancer commissioning strategies.



The tool kit available at www.cancertoolkit.co.uk also contains links to help commissioners quickly access the Map's Cancer pathways, including those developed as national pathways by Cancer Network teams.



The Map is currently working with the following Cancer Networks:

- North East London Cancer Network - already published Colorectal Cancer and Lung Cancer Pathways.
- Kent Cancer Network and Sussex Cancer Network - working together to produce Prostate Cancer Pathway due to be published in February 2009.

- Avon - working on Breast Cancer and Upper GI Pathways.

We are delighted that the Cancer Network teams are involving both local and national cancer clinicians in their work to ensure the highest clinical standard and consistency of guidance is achieved.

Richard Hancox, Director Cancer Action Team commented "It's important to design services around the needs of patients and the patient pathways. The Map enables commissioners to focus on quality at different stages on the pathway and then build design and communicate locally appropriate pathways of care".

November content update & news



Wendy Kimber
Editorial Manager

We now have three further pathways that have been accredited by the Royal College of Physicians (see also 'Royal College of Physicians accreditation' in Issue 6 of The Pathway). These are Polymyalgia rheumatica, Seronegative arthritis and Temporal arteritis.

Included in the latest publication of the Map of Medicine were updates on a number of pathways due to new guidance from the National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE).

The Osteoarthritis pathway now highlights the use of transcutaneous electrical nerve stimulation (TENS) and thermotherapy as adjunct treatments, as well as updating information on hyaluronate, chondroitin and glucosamine use, according to the NICE Clinical Guideline entitled 'The care and management of osteoarthritis in adults' (www.nice.org.uk/CG59).

The Stroke pathway has also been brought into line with NICE's recent publication 'The diagnosis and acute management of stroke and transient ischaemic attacks' (www.nice.org.uk/Guidance/CG68).

The following care journeys are new in the November release:

Medicine

Infectious diseases - Anthrax, Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease

Surgery

Vascular surgery - Venous thromboembolism (VTE) risk assessment

The following care journeys are updated:

Accident and Emergency (A&E)

A&E trauma - Sexual assault

Medicine

Cardiology - Atrial fibrillation, Dyslipidaemia

Dermatology - Acne

Infectious diseases - Dental abscess, HIV, HIV in pregnancy

Nephrology - Urinary tract infections (UTI)

Neurology - Epilepsy, Stroke

Rheumatology - Polymyalgia rheumatica, Rheumatoid arthritis, Seronegative arthritis, Temporal arteritis

Thoracic medicine - Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), Common cold, Community acquired pneumonia

Obstetrics and Gynaecology

Antenatal care - Caesarean section

Paediatrics

Child development - Normal child health assessment

Gastroenterology - Constipation in children, Infantile colic

More topics - Prevention of early onset neonatal group B streptococcal disease

Surgery

Urology - Acute urinary retention

The screenshot displays the 'Temporal arteritis/giant cell arteritis' pathway on the mapofmedicine website. It features a flowchart with nodes for 'Clinical presentation', 'History', 'Examination', and 'Investigations'. A detailed text box on the right provides information on the 'Scope' and 'Incidence and prevalence' of the condition. Below the pathway, there is a section for 'Accreditations' which states that the pathway is accredited by the Royal College of Physicians (accreditation awarded 31-Oct-2008) and the NHS Institute for Innovation and Improvement (accreditation awarded 28-Feb-2007).

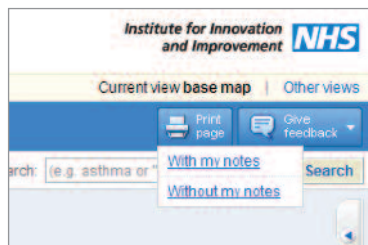
Temporal arteritis Pathway and Royal College of Physicians accreditation

Map of Medicine handy hints

Did you know?

You can include the Personal notes you add to nodes in the PDF printable version of a Pathway page.

On rollover of the print page button on the top right of the screen on a Pathway page you have the option to print 'With my notes'.



When you select this option the PDF version of the page will be displayed. Where you have added Personal notes to a node you can find these notes contextual to the quick info for that node on the PDF.

Over 390 Map Pathways now available on NHS Choices

Continued from cover

Healthguides is a limited functionality version of the Map that allows patients to see what the doctor sees including symptoms, diagnosis and treatments using the same easy to follow charts as the Map.

Healthguides empower patients with knowledge about their own care and can be used for self-education or as a basis for dialogue with Healthcare professionals.

Paul Nuki, Chief Editor, NHS Choices commented "The treatment maps provided by Healthguides were designed for doctors and allow you to see exactly what they see when planning your treatment. Use them to make sure you are getting the best possible treatment. They are an insider's guide to healthcare".

NICE 10th Anniversary conference highlights commissioning

In the past many NHS reforms have been designed to increase capacity. Now World-Class Commissioning is putting primary care at the forefront of delivery of services, with commissioners and clinicians facing more and more challenges to deliver a real improvement in the quality of patient care.

Working with the Map Implementation team and using the Map national Pathways as a start point all those involved in commissioning can now plan the best possible patient journey, add local changes or information and then communicate the agreed patient Pathway.

The Map is available free to all NHS staff in England and Wales. For more details visit www.mapofmedicine.com.



A new film explaining how the Map has helped deliver improved patient care has just been completed for commissioners and shown at the NICE 10th Anniversary conference. This film can be seen on the Map website and will be sent to 130,000 NHS staff by NICE in December.

Care UK buys the Map of Medicine

Care UK are now licensed to use and adapt the Map in the Manchester area and will start training their staff soon with the help of the Implementation team.



Care UK are the largest operator of independent

sector treatment centres in the UK and active across a wide spectrum of primary care services, GP practices, NHS Walk in centres and GP out-of-hours services.

They also operate highly innovative Clinical Assessment and Treatment Services (CATS). As a first step in the programme the Map will be used to help communicate patients pathways for a new CATS service in Manchester.

Meet us at

HSJ Reforming Cancer Care
29th January 2009
Central London

The 5th Annual World Health Care Congress Europe
13-14th May 2009
Brussels

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