



Department of

**Health, Social Services
and Public Safety**

An Roinn

**Sláinte, Seirbhísí Sóisialta
agus Sábháilteachta Poiblí**

www.dhsspsni.gov.uk

Improving Services for Major Trauma

Questionnaire

January 2007

IMPROVING SERVICES FOR MAJOR TRAUMA QUESTIONNAIRE

(Please tick box)
I am responding: as an individual on behalf of an organisation

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Before completing your response, please see Appendix 1 about the effect of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 on the confidentiality of responses to public consultation exercises.

Responses should be sent by letter, fax or e-mail to:

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Your response must be received by 11 APRIL 2007

Questions to answer. Please write clearly.

Your Views on Our Proposals

Q1 – Do you agree that:

Y/N

- A network for major trauma should be developed with the Regional Major Trauma Centre as the network hub. The network will co-ordinate major trauma services including education, data collection and communication Y
- The Royal Group of Hospitals should be designated as the Regional Major Trauma Centre Y
- Patients with major trauma should only be admitted to the Regional Major Trauma Centre and, as far as possible, should be taken directly to the Regional Major Trauma Centre following major trauma Y
- Where a patient with major trauma is not sufficiently stable to travel directly to the Regional Major Trauma Centre, s/he should be taken an acute hospital with the appropriate range of facilities and skilled staff for resuscitation and stabilisation prior to onward transfer to the Regional Major Trauma Centre for definitive care Y

Further comments:

- i) Adequate investment at RVH and within NIAS will be required to make this a viable proposal.**
- ii) The SHSSC is concerned about the role of Daisy Hill Hospital and services to rural communities in South Down and South Armagh. By pass protocols will need to be considered in the light of the definition of 'Major Trauma' and ambulance journey closest time/distance/considerations**
- iii) DHH will require to have a workforce capable of offering resuscitation and stabilisation. This will include support services such as pathology.**
- iv) It is not in the interests of patients to have ambulance staff rather than trained medical personnel make complex decisions about major trauma treatment.**

Q2 – Do you agree with the other recommendations listed below?

Y/N

- All hospitals within the network should identify a central co-ordination point that is resourced and has the authority to arrange the transfer of stabilised major trauma patients Y
- Staff in all hospitals within the network should undergo appropriate training and regularly attend training to update and maintain their skills Y
- The Regional Major Trauma Centre should be staffed and equipped appropriately to carry out its role as the Regional Major Trauma Centre Y
- A comprehensive Northern Ireland Trauma Registry should be established to collect data on both major and serious trauma Y

If you disagree please explain _____

Q3 – Do you consider that other key recommendations should be included? If yes, what should these be?

We strongly believe that, whilst the document contains many valid proposals, a phased approach is required. A mapping of each locality in relation to hospital by-pass protocols would ensure patient safety matters will be at the forefront.

Statutory Equality

Q4 – Do you think the Recommendations will have an adverse impact on any of the nine equality groups identified under Section 75 of the Northern Ireland Act 1998? If yes, please state the group or groups and provide comment on how these adverse impacts could be reduced or alleviated in the proposals.

Rural communities in South Down and South Armagh are likely to be adversely impacted upon. This may mean that Nationalist and Catholic communities are affected disproportionately.

Q5 – Is there any indication or evidence of higher or lower participation or uptake by different groups?

No

Q6 – Is there any indication or evidence that different groups have different needs, experiences, issues and priorities in relation to the particular policy?

No

Q7 – Have previous consultations with relevant groups, organisations or individuals indicated that particular policies create problems that are specific to them?

Communities in rural and peripheral areas, believe that they are potentially put at risk by a highly centralised system. Such concerns need to be taken on board and, if necessary, mitigated.

Q8 – Is there an opportunity to better promote equality of opportunity or good relations by altering the policy or working with others in government or in the larger community?

An open and transparent process to map the implication of the proposals could generate a ‘citizenship’ debate on these and other issues relating to medicine in rural communities

Rural Proofing

Q9 – Do you think the Recommendations will have an adverse impact on rural communities? If yes, please state any adverse impacts that you feel the proposals are likely to have on them.

Potentially, any system and protocols must ensure that residents of rural areas eg South Down/South Armagh, are not placed at risk.

Q10 – Please state how these adverse impacts could be reduced or alleviated in the proposals.

By ensuring an effective and high quality service is available from Daisy Hill Hospital as part of the network.

Q11 – If you feel the adverse impacts cannot be alleviated within the current proposed actions, please suggest alternative actions that could be considered to reduce the differential impact on rural communities.

Rural Communities require services that ensure patient safety

Human Rights

Q12 – The Recommendations are intended to contribute to the promotion of rights. Do you think that the Recommendations promote human rights?

Q13 – Are there any aspects where potential violations may occur? Please indicate whom this impacts upon.

Additional comments

Q14 – Do you have any other comments on the Recommendations or any suggestions that you would like to make to improve the promotion of equality of opportunity and/or good relations, rural proofing or human rights?

Please continue on a separate sheet if necessary.

Thank you for taking time to complete this questionnaire.