

Aneurin Bevan Health Board approve funding for Gestational diabetics.

A pilot study for Gestational diabetes has now been approved under the guidance of Julia Platts, Cardiff and Vale UHB.

With the continual advancement of technology based treatments, effective information and the increasing general public and profession expectations, the NHS has to make tough decisions about how and which treatments are funded.

In Wales and the composition of numerous different Health Boards the decision to make medicines routinely available is more evidence based. With all medicine approved by NICE being readily available in Wales there are some requests received for healthcare that fall outside the routinely funded range of services and includes requests for treatment and medicines that are not routinely available within NHS Wales. These requests are referred to as Individual Patient Funding Requests (IPFR).

The challenge is for Health Boards to find a balance in providing medicine and care for the majority of the population, however, still maintaining the flexibility in providing services to accommodate individual's needs. The ability for a Health Board to meet local need within the resource available is based on a comprehensive range of policies and strategic implementation of a schedule of services. The framework does allow and will continually consider requests for IPFR's, however, as in the majority of cases these costs of deployment will no doubt exceed resources available.

In actual terms to have IPFR approval for a patient is a huge milestone achieved by Connect Health Solutions (CHS) as this is and will remain one of the most difficult decisions a Health Board will have to make outside of traditional policy.

CHS is currently discussing with a specialist team at Aneurin Health Board to deliver a fully functional pilot in Gestational Diabetes. The clinical effectiveness and efficiency, economic and evidence based methodology used in Ulster Hospital where they are now deploying devices and strips to Gestational Diabetics, has provided key insight into the telemetry based diabetic management systems CHS deliver.

Simon Dempsey, Director of CHS states "We are delighted to have successfully achieved funding with Aneurin Health Board for a 3-month pilot in Gestational Diabetes, we all look forward to working with the team in delivering our comprehensive and telemetry based management platform to Gestational Diabetics, assisting in maintaining healthy mums and babies with clinically effective results and satisfied users"

NHS