The Planned Care Programme

Our vision:
A future where planned care services in Wales is sustainable, through balancing the capacity and demand of NHS services.

Our mission:
In Wales each year over 98,000 patients are referred for ophthalmology, orthopaedic, ears nose and throat, and urology conditions. Patients are waiting longer year on year to be seen in secondary care because services are not in balance.

What is the programme about?

It is a programme of change that will support NHS organisations:

- Understand capacity and demand for their services in order to improve planning processes.
- Identify opportunities to improve patient pathways.
- Understand and minimise sources of variation across Wales to improve performance using evidence based practices consistently and transparently.

Embrace the primary drivers of Wales prudent healthcare principles: clinical prioritisation, integrated care and best in class:

- Encourage clinicians to stop doing some procedures that are not benefitting patients – known as do not dos.
- Achieve health and wellbeing with the public, patients and professionals as equal partners through co-production.
- Care for those with the greatest health need first, making the most effective use of all skills and resources.

Services:

- Ophthalmology
- Orthopaedic
- Ears, nose and throat
- Urology
- Dermatology

How are we going to deliver a sustainable service?

National implementation plans for each speciality – each implementation plan contains a key set of actions that are based on prudent health care principles.

National clinical led speciality board each board has clinical and managerial representatives from each health board including advisory roles.

Results:

1. Balanced service.
2. Redesigning of pathways from a patient value perspective.
3. Reduced waiting times.
4. Reduced variation in practice.
5. Spread of good practice.
6. Empowering patients.
8. Capture patient reported outcome and experience measures.
9. Standardise the use of virtual appointments across Wales.

For more information please visit the Planned Care Programme web page:
http://gov.wales/topics/health/nhswnes/about/planned/?lang=en