

SERVICE FRAMEWORK FOR CARDIOVASCULAR HEALTH AND WELL BEING

SECTION 2 - SERVICE FRAMEWORK FOR CARDIOVASCULAR HEALTH AND WELLBEING

Introduction

Cardiovascular disease (CVD) is one of the major causes of ill health and disability in Northern Ireland. The aim of this framework is to improve the health and wellbeing of the population of Northern Ireland, reduce inequalities and improve the HSC quality of care in relation to cardiovascular disease. It is recognised that achievement of this aim goes beyond traditional HSC boundaries and is strongly influenced by population/individual attitudes and behaviours, and the contribution of other sectors.

The cardiovascular health and wellbeing service framework sets standards in relation to the prevention, assessment, diagnosis, treatment, care, rehabilitation and palliative care of individuals/communities who currently have or are at greater risk of developing cardiovascular disease. Recognising that several diseases can co-exist, share common risk factors and can adversely impact on prognosis, this service framework includes consideration of:

- Hypertension (high blood pressure);
- Hyperlipidaemia (high cholesterol);
- Diabetes (as a significant risk factor for the development of cardiovascular disease);
- Coronary Heart Disease (e.g. angina, heart attack, heart failure);
- Cerebrovascular Disease (e.g. stroke);
- Peripheral Vascular Disease (e.g. poor circulation in the legs causing ulcers/gangrene); and,
- Renal disease associated with cardiovascular disease (e.g. kidney failure)

Process for developing the service framework for cardiovascular health and wellbeing

The development of Service Frameworks is overseen by a multi-disciplinary programme board, which is jointly chaired by the Chief Medical Officer and Deputy Secretary of the DHSSPS. In addition,

SERVICE FRAMEWORK FOR CARDIOVASCULAR HEALTH AND WELL BEING

the CVD Framework has been developed by a project team, with representation from all aspects of the service and service users and carers. The project to develop this framework is accountable, through the Project Lead, to the Departmental Service Framework Programme Board. The full membership of the Project Team is set out in Appendix 1.

Equality Screening

The Department's equality screening of the Cardiovascular Service Framework was informed by the consultation process. The screening process did not identify any adverse impacts on any of the groups covered by Section 75 of the Northern Ireland Act.

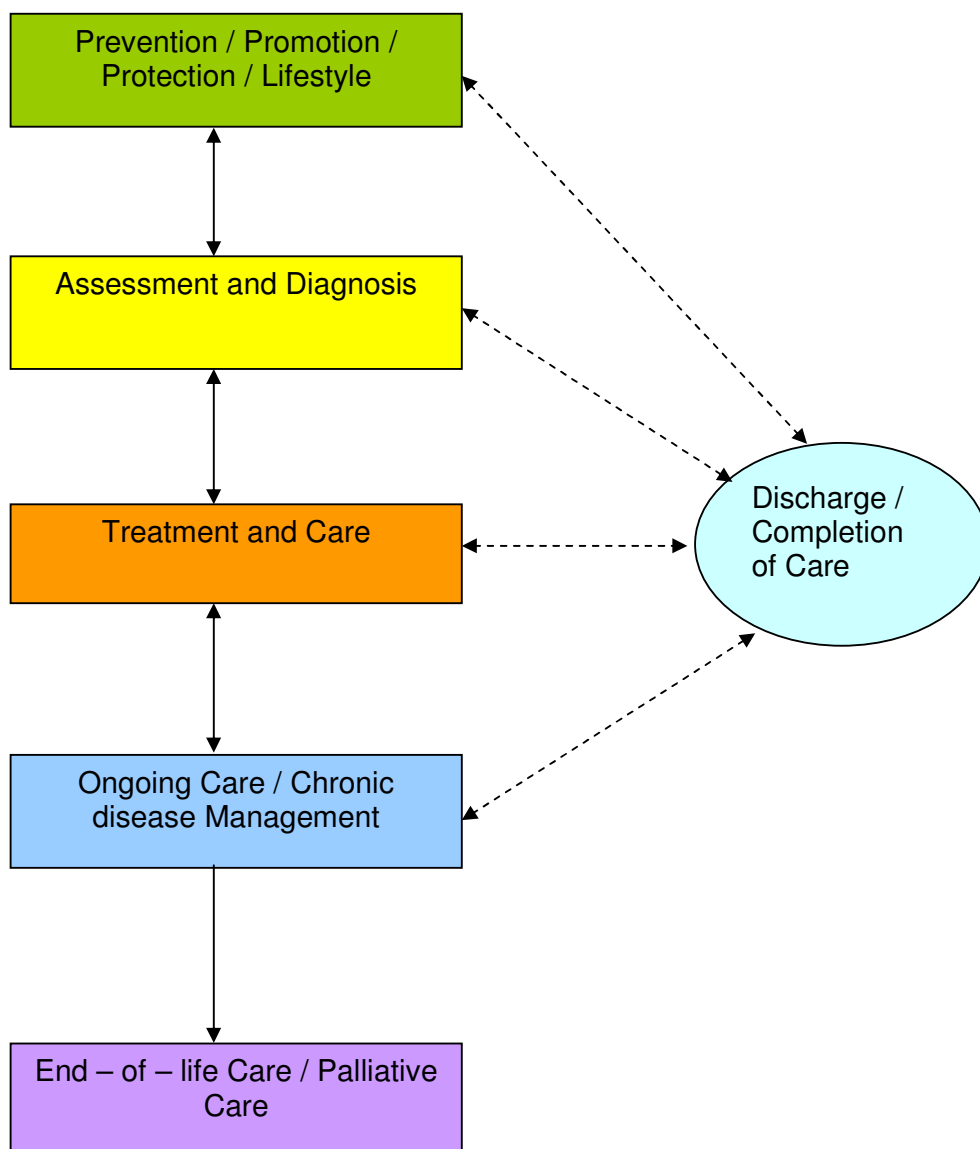
How to read the rest of this document

Each service framework follows an individual's journey, from prevention through to end-of-life care, taking into account the different health and social care needs of children and adults.

Each standard sets out the evidence base and rationale for the development of the standard, the impact of the standard on quality improvement as well as the performance indicators that will be used to measure that the standard has been achieved within a specific timeframe. The standards are colour coded for ease of reference, for example standards related to assessment and diagnosis will be yellow.

SERVICE FRAMEWORK FOR CARDIOVASCULAR HEALTH AND WELL BEING

Flowchart 1 – Template for Development of Service Frameworks



The rest of this document is divided into the following sections:

- **Section 3** explains why there is a need to develop a service framework for cardiovascular health and wellbeing and describes some of the key risk factors influencing the development of cardiovascular disease;
- **Section 4** sets out standards in relation to communication and personal and public involvement which will be relevant to a number of service frameworks under development;

SERVICE FRAMEWORK FOR CARDIOVASCULAR HEALTH AND WELL BEING

- **Section 5** sets out standards in relation to health promotion and prevention which will be relevant to a number of service frameworks under development;
- **Section 6** sets out standards in relation to specific conditions associated with cardiovascular disease such as stroke, diabetes, renal disease etc; and,
- **Section 7** sets out standards for people who require supportive, palliative or end of life care which will be relevant to a number of service frameworks under development.

A glossary of terms is appended to this document (Appendix 2) which explains some of the medical terms used in these standards. We would like to thank the Northern Ireland Cardiac Network for permission to use terms from their booklet “The Heart: Its Treatment and Care”. Further information on the Northern Ireland Cardiac Network can be found at <http://www.nicardiacnetwork.org/>.

In support of this framework document work is also ongoing to develop a commissioning and implementation guide which will build on the valuable work that has already commenced in relation to the identification of service model components that are required to deliver the service framework standards.