

An overview of diagnostic service

Prepared for Digital, Performance & Finance Assurance Committee

December 2023

Overview of Current Diagnostic Services

Radiology:

The radiology department provides a range of imaging modalities across two main sites at York and Scarborough and five other satellite sites. The two main imaging modalities which have seen the biggest rise in demand are CT and MRI and are the focus of the following slides

Endoscopy:

The endoscopy service is provided across 3 sites undertaking 11 diagnostic procedures. Colonoscopy and surveillance procedures have seen the biggest rise in demand and backlog.

Pathology: Pathology services are provided by SHYPS (Scarborough, Hull and York pathology services) with multiple laboratories distributed across the region. This report will focus on the Cellular Pathology service within SHYPS and particularly the laboratory at York.

Radiology Performance Overview



York and Scarborough
Teaching Hospitals
NHS Foundation Trust

Prior to COVID radiology had demonstrated a recovering performance position against the national 6 week diagnostic target. Averaging 92% compliance across all imaging modalities against a 99% target.

Performance has deteriorated coming out of the COVID pandemic and although there have been improvements and recovery in some modalities, the total waiting list size across radiology remains almost double where it was pre-COVID

Time Period	Average 6 Wk Position	Total Waiting List Size
2019/20	92%	4000
Mar 21	71%	5610
Oct 22	50%	12000
End of 22/23	63%	8800
23/24 Current	66%	7800

CT (Computed Tomography)

- 3 CT static scanner at YH. CT 3 out of Manufacturer support from December 2024
- 2 CT scanners SGH
- Mobile scanners rotate to YH, Bridlington and Selby
- Increasing acute demand
- Undertaking Capacity and demand modelling currently using the IST (intense support team) tool
- Static CT development Scarborough CDC (Community Diagnostic Centre) hub

MRI (Magnetic Resonance Imaging)

- 2 Static MRI YH
- 1 Mobile MRI SGH
- Mobile MRI rotate Bridlington, Scarborough and York
- Mobile units do not undertake any contrast scans at present
- SLA with Nuffield to provide additional capacity
- SLA development with Ramsay
- Bid for 3rd Static scanner submitted
- Static MRI development Scarborough CDC Hub
- Undertaking Capacity and demand modelling currently using the IST (intense support team) tool

Endoscopy

- 11 procedures are : Gastroscopy, Colonoscopy, Flexible sigmoidoscopy, Capsule endoscopy, STRETTA (Oesophagus reconstruction), Anal physiology, PH manometry, Bowel cancer screening, ERCP (Endoscopic Retrograde Cholangiopancreatography), Bronchoscopy, EBUS (Endobronchial ultrasound bronchoscopy, York only)
- Increase in demand (20% for colonoscopy since before pandemic)
- Disruption to delivery of service due to pandemic, but service now working with minimal COVID restrictions
- Consistent service disruption in 2023 due to industrial action
- Current utilisation of insourcing to support surveillance recovery (Jan-Oct 2023)
- Planned utilisation of insourcing to support diagnostic recovery (from Oct 2023)
- Diagnostic 6-week colonoscopy pathway ('DM01') currently at ~30% performance
- Working more with partners across the regional network – HNY endoscopy network steering group

Endoscopy

- Not enough capacity to meet demand. Colonoscopy capacity and demand work was undertaken with the IST team to quantify the capacity gap. (10 colonoscopy sessions per week)
- Shortage of job-planned endoscopists due to consultant vacancies in gastroenterology team at York & SGH. Recruitment underway
- JAG accreditation – site visit in Nov 2023 outcome deferred for 6 months
- Opening room 7 in York – nurse and endoscopist recruitment underway
- Training additional nurse endoscopists
- Retaining experienced Doctors to deliver endoscopy focused job plans as part of retire and return
- Additional cancer monies to support reducing backlogs and TAT (turnaround times)
- 2–5-year Workforce plan in development

Cellular Pathology: York

- Laboratory facility located at York Hospital and performs cellular pathology diagnostics from York, Scarborough and Bridlington hospitals.
- The accommodation is in poor state and is a limiting factor for increasing the capacity for the service.
- Activity: Total workload (lab and clinical)

Cell Path	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	YTD
Total	4294	4800	5030	4813	4448	4614	4885	6008	38892
Forecast	4283	4656	4386	4330	4433	4418	4410	4624	35540
Last year (22/23)	4172	4936	4414	4321	4544	4534	4534	4722	36177

Cellular Pathology: York

- Performance:

PQAD York Lab		Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov
T2	Total number of diagnostic histopathology cases received (York)	2,707	2,861	3,213	2,771	2,599	2,679	2,890	3,332
T2.1	Total number of diagnostic histopathology cases reported	2,799	2,648	3,014	2,727	3,422	2,160	3,208	3,119
	% of all diagnostic cases reported in 7 days (York)	17%	17%	23%	20%	27%	19%	16%	18%
	% of all diagnostic cases reported in 10 days (York)	30%	27%	41%	30%	46%	31%	26%	27%

- Cancer specific TAT data under evaluation

Cellular Pathology: Improvement Plan

- Plan to improve performance to meet NHSE 10 day reporting target :
 - 70% reported within 10 days by April 24
 - 80% reported within 10 days by Oct 24
 - 98% reported within 10 days by April 25
- Short term funding secured to bring in Admin, scientific and medical staff to support growing demand and improve performance
- Additional outsourcing capacity being used in Dec
- Options for future accommodation to meet current and future demand being explored
- Technological and Digital developments are being explored with NHSE.