

  
Midlands and East  
Specialised Commissioning Group

## Commissioning Specialised Services

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## Midlands & East Specialised Commissioning Group

One of the first visible changes during the transition is the clustering of specialised commissioning groups along the same footprint as SHAs. This is part of the transition into a single nationwide function following the publication of the Shared Operating Model for PCTs (July 11)

There are now four specialised commissioning groups: North, South, Midlands and East, and London.

*Midlands and East Specialised Commissioning Group is formed of East Midlands SCG, East of England SCG and West Midlands SCG.*

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## What are specialised services?

- Specialised Services are typically provided in relatively few specialist centres to a population of more than one million people
- These services are mainly planned for and commissioned across more than one primary care trust's population
- Challenges include: training of specialist staff; supporting research; making best use of staff expertise and high tech equipment

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## What are specialised services? (continued)

**Regionally commissioned services can be broadly grouped into two categories:**

**Relatively rare / complex** - services such as paediatric intensive care, burn care, cleft lip and palate and genetics.

**Pathway/ long term conditions** - services such as cardiac, mental health, neurosciences, HIV/AIDs and kidney care. The majority of funding and activity in specialised commissioning is in this group of services. These offer the greatest opportunity for CCG influence and involvement.

The Specialised Services National Definition Set can be found at:  
[www.specialisedservices.nhs.uk/info/specialised-services-national-definitions](http://www.specialisedservices.nhs.uk/info/specialised-services-national-definitions)

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## Health & Social Care Bill 2011

The 2011 Health & Social Care Bill will have a significant impact on the way specialised services are commissioned.

Specialised Services are to be a core responsibility of the NHS Commissioning Board (NHSCB) based on four key principles:

- 1 Rarity
- 2 Complexity
- 3 Scarce expertise
- 4 Financial risk

The Bill sets out plans to transfer specialised commissioning to the NHSCB once it is established, into a nationwide function.

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## Changes to Specialised Commissioning

- Specialised services to be commissioned by NHS Commissioning Board (NHSCB) rather than Clinical Commissioning Groups.
- Service portfolio and budget for NHSCB to be determined (using national definition set).
- Budget for specialised commissioning to be retained by NHSCB.
- Greater focus on consistency – single national policies, standards, contracts and QIPP – move towards convergence - mainstreaming patient engagement
- Concern regarding impact of separate commissioning arrangements on provision of integrated care across patient pathways.

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## Transition to new arrangements

- National Commissioning Development Transition Team – led by Dame Barbara Hakin – to ensure smooth transition
- National 'Direct Commissioning' work stream overseeing transition of specialised services into NHSCB
- In July 2011, Shared Operating Model for PCTs published - 10 SCGs to be clustered alongside new 4 SHA Clusters
  - North, Midlands & East, South of England and London
- Ultimately, 1 national specialised commissioning function under NHSCB

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## Specialised Commissioning Transition

- 10 SCGs and the NSCT moving towards single national function
- National work streams established to oversee process of convergence, including patient and public engagement, quality and outcomes, and projects looking at Commissioning Integrated Care and the role of networks and Clinical Senates
- By April 2012, all SCGs to commission a common set of services to include neurosciences, burns, cystic fibrosis, *mental health*, *renal transplantation* and dialysis

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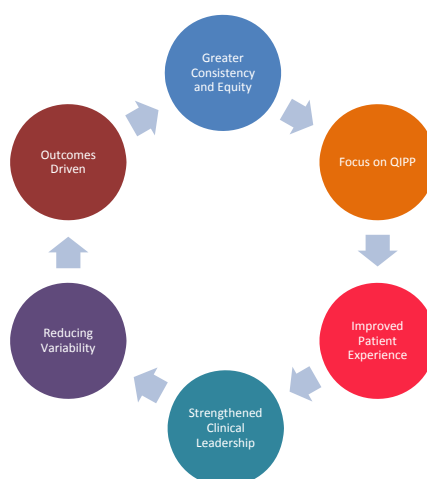
## Challenges

- Consistency
- Nationally planned, locally responsive
- Communication
- Effective engagement
- Best use of the new system
- Seamless engagement across a whole care pathway

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## Opportunities for Commissioning



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