Paediatric Rheumatology

Dr. K.P.Lee

on behalf of CWG Paediatric Rheumatology

CWG Paediatric Rheumatology

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Existing services

- Paediatric rheumatology services are currently provided at a variable extent in all paediatrics departments of HA hospitals
- Designated rheumatology clinics for rheumatology patients are set up in 7 Departments, while others have integrated the rheumatology cases into renal/GI/immune/general clinics
- Services are provided by paediatricians with special interest in rheumatology with variable rheumatology training

- No physiotherapist/occupational therapist specialized in paediatric rheumatology
- Only one nursing specialist work as a paediatric rheumatology nurse coordinating the service



Gap

- Biologics and novel Tx
- Intra-articular steroid injection
- Capillaroscopy
- Musculoskeletal ultrasound assessment
- Transitional care
- Expertise of medical staff, nurses and allied health

Service model in HKCH era

- Hub and Spokes model
- Complex or rare pediatric rheumatology cases to be centralized at HKCH and share care with other subspecialty for multi-system rheumatology case
- Local hospital to take care of acute shortlasting rheumatology condition and stepdown care of stable simple rheumatology patients

HKCH

- In-patient care for acute severe rheumatology patients
- Day patient care for treatment and comprehensive assessment
- Out patient clinic
- Support local hospital/spokes : out-reach clinic and consultation, skype consultation and phone consultation
- Teaching and research

Spokes

- Number of spokes depends on remaining expertise at local hospitals
- Dynamic
- Number of spokes expected to be small initially while most of trained staff move in HKCH
- Taken care by staff who has special interest in rheumatology

Medical manpower at HKCH

- 5-6 subspecialists/trained staff
- 2-3 trainees for rotation and subsequent succession plan
- Sustainability and healthy succession for small subspecialty

The Pediatric Rheumatology Workforce: A Study of the Supply and Demand for Pediatric Rheumatologists. US Department of Health & Human Services, Human Resources and Service Administration, Bureau of Health Professions. Feb, 2007.

NHS STANDARD CONTRACT. PAEDIATRIC MEDICINE: RHEUMATOLOGY. NHS Commissioning Board 2013



Other support

- Nurse
- Physiotherapist
- Occupational therapist
- Other paediatric subspecialists and medical specialists like ophthalmologists and orthopaedic surgeon
- Other allied health like clinical psychologists, dietitians and social workers

Interim

- Engage interested staff
- Provide overseas training opportunity
- Networking by area (HK, Kowloon and NT) to provide service, maximize exposure and share experience
- Clear and transparent career path
- Management practice statement preparation

Subspecialty training

- Based at HKCH
- Adult rheumatology module



Thank you!

