

Atrial Fibrillation (AF)



What is the innovation?

The AF programme has 3 aims – to detect AF, to perfect treatment of patients with AF, and to protect people with AF from stroke



Why are we doing it?

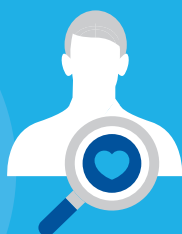
We aim to prevent up to **160 strokes** and save **£3.6 million** in associated health and costs, over two years

There has been significant improvement in the detection of AF and perfection of treatment across Wessex.

Detection has increased from **79%** to **82%**, and **83%** of people requiring anticoagulation were prescribed it in 17/18 compared to **81%** in 16/17.



Detection rates in every CCG area have increased across Wessex with the overall detection rate rising from **79%** to **82%**, exceeding our NHS England target of **81%** set for March 2019 and nearing the 2020 target of **85%***



AF detection rate, as a result of AliveCor Mobile ECG at **9%**

This is comparably high against the national average of **6%****



The number of people taking anticoagulation has increased

In Wessex we increased from **81%** in 16/17 to **83%** in 17/18 (range across CCGs **79-88%**) against a national Target of **84%** which the AHSN network met in November 2018*

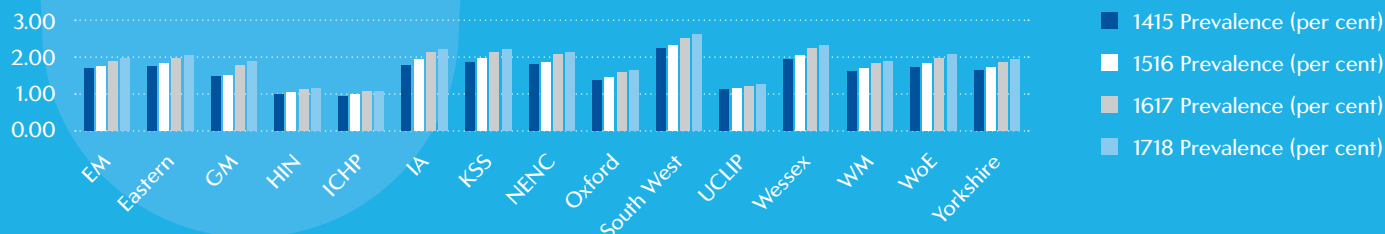


Around **40**

AliveCor training events across Wessex, with over **140 attendees** helped to spread the availability of the mobile ECG device

AF Prevalence (as percentage of GP register list size) by AHSN

2014/15 - 2017/18 from QoF



*QoF Data

**Kardia data, Nov 18

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What was delivered 2018-19?

Detect

- The introduction of 350 AliveCor mobile ECG devices across the Wessex area, which will help close the gap of undetected AF
- In Wessex, we detected an additional 3287 people with AF between 16/17 and 17/18

Protect

- The number of people taking anticoagulation has increased. In Wessex, we increased from 81% in 16/17 to 83% in 17/18. Contributing to the achievement of the National Programme target of 84% being met in November 2018
- We were awarded an AHSN Network/Pfizer grant to support prescribers in primary care to optimise anticoagulation treatment, through a programme of education, training and support. This is delivering a project in Dorset CCG
- The Isle of Wight and Portsmouth CCGs have been awarded a NHSE grant to support a programme of virtual clinics designed to optimise anticoagulant use

Perfect

- Starting Anticoagulation with Jack: This award-winning campaign video has been viewed more than 30k times and is being spread nationally by the AHSN Network and within many local care providers
- Improved patient consultations and community pharmacy referral: there has been a 20% increase in community pharmacy New Medicines Service consultations for Anticoagulation

The New Medicines Service is known to increase medication adherence by 10%

Events and awards 2018-19:

- Around 40 AliveCor training events across Wessex, with over 140 attendees helped to spread the availability of the mobile ECG device
- Training on anticoagulation initiation & optimisation over several seminar sessions for >200 nurses, pharmacists, junior doctors, GPs, laboratory scientists and other allied healthcare professionals

Across Wessex, initiatives being delivered by partners to improve identification and management of patients with AF include:

- Direct training/buddying/mentoring for 3 pharmacists with a specialist interest in anticoagulation supervision
- Weekday advice & guidance for GPs through eRS on anticoagulation with turnaround <3 days
- Regional consultant advice line 24/7 for complex anticoagulation concerns
- Collaboration between Anticoagulant Specialist Services to deliver inreach/telephone outreach on working days to patients requiring initiation of or adjustments to anticoagulation
- Achievement of TTR for warfarin consistent at 73% through close supervision & monitoring (includes patients with difficult control who are unable to switch to a DOAC due to indication for anticoagulation/interacting medications)
- Collaboration with ED to review emergency pathway for head injury on anticoagulation to ensure safe ongoing individualised management



Plans for 2019-20:

- Dorset Anticoagulation Optimisation and Education Project will run until Oct 2020 to optimise anticoagulation for patients most at risk of stroke
- IOW and Portsmouth CCG virtual clinic implementation to ensure that those patients diagnosed with AF are in receipt of most appropriate treatment. Designed to reduce rates of stroke
- Development of a Webinar/Podcast Programme, aligned to the National AHSN AF Programme, designed to spread learning from current projects and continue to provide education to all those involved in AF
- Supporting and targeted communications designed to continue to encourage AF detection rates across Wessex through use of AliveCor

“Patients seemed very happy to engage with the **AliveCor**. I think as it is quite visual they liked being able to see what was going on. They also liked the idea of being screened as many already knew that a diagnosis of AF if untreated would increase their risk of stroke.”

Katherine Cordingly
Partner GP
Lordshill Health Centre



Starting
anticoagulation with
Jack, a resource for
patients
See the video at:
[wessexahsn.org.uk/
jack](http://wessexahsn.org.uk/jack)



About the Academic Health Science Network

Wessex Academic Health Science Network (AHSN) is one of 15 AHSNs set up by NHS England in 2013 and relicensed from April 2018 to operate as the key innovation arm of the NHS.

At Wessex AHSN we improve people's health, achieve excellence in healthcare and boost transformation and growth in our region's life sciences and healthcare sector.

We connect academics, NHS, local authorities, industry and citizens to bring fresh energy to old problems, inspired thinking to new ones and to spread innovation and best practice across health and social care.



10%
of the workforce in
Wessex is employed in
the health economy



Wessex boasts over
250
life science companies
in medtech, medbiotech,
industrial biotech and
pharma



The region's life sciences
industry employs 9,000
and has a turnover of
£2.5 billion



The region's population
of 3 million is served by
10
CCGs
9
local authorities
11
NHS Trusts and
5
universities

Want to find out more?

The AHSN Network

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Watch our short video about what we do at wessexahsn.org.uk/aboutwessexahsn