

BREAST CARE SERVICES

Your views wanted

What we are doing

NHS Southport and Formby CCG and NHS West Lancashire CCG want to hear the views and experiences of breast care patients, carers, support groups and others interested in how these services might be provided in the future.

Why we're doing this

- Southport & Ormskirk Hospital NHS Trust closed its breast care service to new patients on 1st September 2014.
- This was because it was unable to recruit the appropriate clinical staff and consequently could no longer provide the service safely.
- Patients have always been able to choose breast care services from a number of local and regional hospitals. This included Southport & Ormskirk.

Why we're doing this

- It may not be possible to re-introduce all parts of the service that Southport & Ormskirk previously offered but both CCGs are examining which aspects of breast care might again be provided locally in the future.
- The national breast screening service remains unaffected by this change.

About Southport & Ormskirk's service

- Around 40-50 patients every week chose to be referred by their GP to the service.
- Under 140 of these patients were diagnosed with breast cancer each year.
- The service included initial assessment and breast surgery.
- While the results of breast cancer treatment at Southport & Ormskirk were always good, some aspects of breast care, like reconstruction, isotope injections - which are part of lymph node testing - and radiotherapy were carried out elsewhere.
- This was a smaller service than those provided at other local hospitals.

What has this meant for patients?

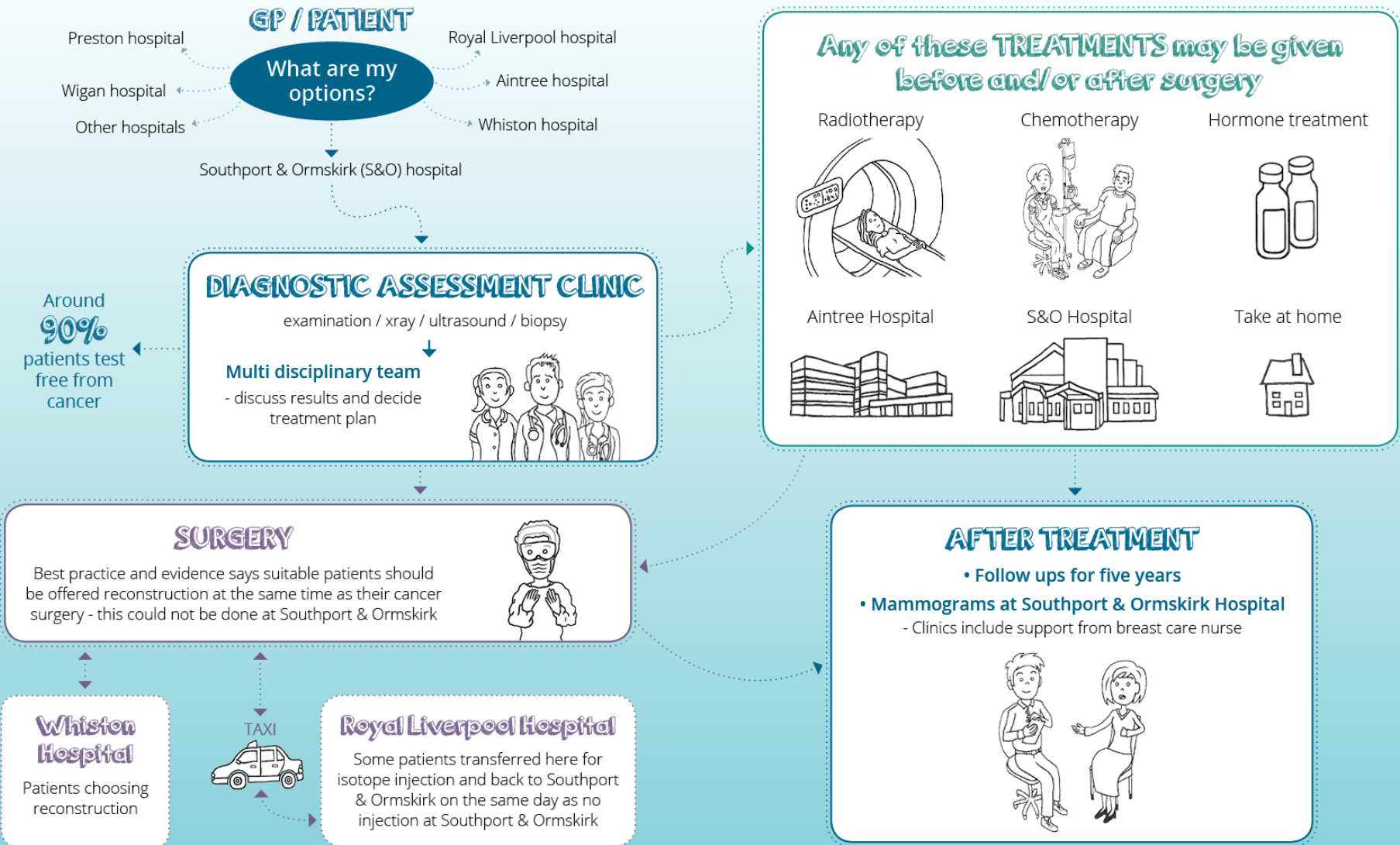
- Southport & Ormskirk has continued the care of all patients referred to them up until 1st September 2014.
- The CCGs' priority has been to work with the hospital and other local trusts to ensure continued high quality, safe and timely breast care for all new and existing patients.
- Many new patients from Southport, Formby and West Lancashire have chosen to be seen at Aintree and Wigan - these hospitals have continued to meet target waiting times.

What has this meant for patients?

The following two illustrations give an overview of:

- What patients - up until 1st September 2014 - could expect from Southport & Ormskirk's service, and
- The differences for new Southport, Formby and West Lancashire patients since this date

This is how the service at Southport & Ormskirk worked before the changes



This is what has been happening to people needing breast care since Southport & Ormskirk closed its service to new patients

GP / PATIENT

Aintree, Royal Liverpool, Whiston and Wigan hospitals, or other hospitals

DIAGNOSTIC ASSESSMENT CLINIC

examination / xray / ultrasound / biopsy

Multi disciplinary team

- discuss results and decide treatment plan



IMPROVEMENT

A wide range of the latest surgical procedures in one place including the majority of breast reconstructions and isotope injections



IMPROVEMENT

Single specialist team which stays with patients throughout their assessment and surgery
More patients benefitting from same day examination, assessment and diagnosis



NO CHANGE

Any of these TREATMENTS may be given before and/or after surgery

Radiotherapy



Aintree Hospital



Chemotherapy



S&O Hospital



Hormone treatment



Take at home



CURRENTLY NO CHANGE FOR SOUTHPORT & ORMSKIRK PATIENTS

AFTER TREATMENT

- Follow ups for five years
- Mammograms at Southport & Ormskirk Hospital
- Clinics include support from breast care nurse



Shaping future breast care services

- There have been great advancements in the treatment of breast cancer in recent years.
- We believe all breast care patients should be able to choose from services that are accessible, modern, offer them the best rates of recovery, are sensitive to their local needs and which use the latest advancements based on sound medical evidence.
- The views and experiences of patients, carers and local residents will also help us to shape and refine future services to meet our local needs.

Shaping future breast care services

We particularly want to hear from new and existing patients about their views and experiences of breast care services - what they have valued most and which aspects of their care could be improved, which could include:

- **1. After treatment support** - how and where could they be provided and what do they need to include, such as lifestyle and emotional support?
- **2. Access to breast care clinics** - are they held at the right times etc?
- **3. General experiences of using these services** - what was good and could be better in the future?

What we will do next

- We are speaking with patients, carers and local people until mid February.
- At the same time we are continuing to explore what might be clinically feasible to provide locally in the future.
- We expect to know the results of this exercise by April 2015 - after then we will begin to make any necessary adjustments to current services as a result of people's views and experiences.

How you can get involved

We are inviting people to contact us directly with their comments in the following ways:

- By visiting our websites to complete a questionnaire - www.southportandformbyccg.nhs.uk or www.westlancashireccg.nhs.uk
- By contacting our Patient Experience Team via 0800 218 2333 or cmcsu.PALS@nhs.uk
- We are also attending a range of other local meetings and events, speaking to new and existing patients. Details are available on our websites, or by contacting the Patient Experience Team.

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Thank you - any questions?