



# North East Networking: Newcastle and Sunderland MDT

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## INTRODUCTION

- Sunderland MS service
  - Within District General hospital
  - ~800 MS patients with ~200 on DMT
  - 1 MS Neurologist and 1 MS nurse
- Newcastle MS service
  - Regional Neuroscience Centre
  - >5000 patients
  - ~1200 patients on DMT
  - 4 MS neurologists and 4 MS nurses

## POTENTIAL UNMET NEED

- In 2017 Cladribine was approved only for prescription in Newcastle and South Tees unless MDT provision
- In September 2018 the NHSE DMT algorithm stipulates that all higher efficacy treatments to be discussed in MDT

## SERVICE DEVELOPMENT

- In 2016 formal weekly MS RVI MDT established.
- Dr Petheram attends meeting monthly.
- Initially to discuss challenging diagnostic and treatment questions
- Forum at which Sunderland DMT patients to be discussed

## OUTCOME



June 2018 – May 2019 40 Sunderland patients discussed at MDT

Patients approved for high efficacy treatment in timely matter

No need for patients to travel to regional centre

## FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS

- North Cumbria also has only one neurologist with MS interest
- Plans in development to enable attendance at RVI MDT
- Explore virtual MDT with video links



## CONCLUSION



A network model in the North East allows patients in Sunderland to be treated closer to home, relieving pressure on the regional neuroscience centre whilst complying with NHSE requirements for DMT provision.

