



Introduction

In May 2017 the Children's Hospital Group established a Paediatric Scoliosis Services Co-Design Group and engaged with the three scoliosis advocacy groups, The Scoliosis Advocacy Network Group, Scoliosis Ireland and Scoliosis Awareness and Support Ireland on this Co-Design Group to work with professionals and managers to design the scoliosis services needed to meet the needs of children, young people, their families and healthcare professionals. The work of the Co-Design Group was completed in February 2018 and forms the basis for developing scoliosis services into 2018 and 2019. These developments have been prioritised in a 10 Point Scoliosis Action Plan for 2018/2019.

In February 2018, the Orthopaedic Surgery Implementation Group was established to implement the Orthopaedic elements contained within the HSE Service Plan 2018 and to implement the prioritised actions agreed by the Scoliosis Co-Design Group in the action plan.

The Orthopaedic Surgery Implementation Group have developed criteria and pathways for spinal surgery based on clinical requirements and national and international best practice. This ensures that children and young adolescents have surgery when clinically indicated for their individual case and within a time period that does not cause clinical deterioration of their condition.

The Children's Hospital Group have processes in place to engage directly with the advocacy groups. A newsletter has been developed providing an update on relevant activity and waiting lists and is published on a fortnightly basis as agreed with the advocacy groups.

A concurrent project is being undertaken in the Children's Hospital Group to design the integrated Orthopaedic services across the Children's Hospital Group. The implementation of the future Clinical Operating Model for Paediatric Orthopaedics in the Children's Hospital Group is also being overseen by the Orthopaedic Surgery Implementation Group.

HSE National Service Plan 2018

- Improve access to paediatric orthopaedics, including surgery for scoliosis, in conjunction with the Children's Hospital Group to achieve clinically appropriate waiting times
- Development of a standardised pathway of care for children and adolescents with scoliosis which will be evidence-based and patient-centred
- Continue the development Transition Services for young adults with scoliosis in the Mater Misericordiae University Hospital, Dublin and Cappagh Orthopaedic Hospital for patients transferring from paediatric services

Orthopaedic Scoliosis Co-Design

- 10 point action plan developed through a Co-Design initiative
- Co-Design conducted in a partnership between healthcare professionals, families and advocates
- The voice of the child incorporated in the Co-Design process facilitated by the Ombudsman for Children's Office

Orthopaedic Surgery Implementation Group

- Implement orthopaedics elements of 2018 HSE Service Plan
- Implement the Orthopaedic Scoliosis Co-Design 2018/2019 prioritised actions

Summary of 10 Point Plan

The Orthopaedic Surgery Implementation Group was established in March 2018 to oversee the development and implementation of the 10-point action plan that was developed and recommended by the Scoliosis Co-Design Group. The HSE National Service Plan 2018 investment in Paediatric Orthopaedics across the city facilitates the implementation of this plan. In February 2018, two sub-groups, led by Orthopaedic Consultants from the children's hospitals, were tasked to design the outputs required to deliver on specific actions from the 10 point plan 1, 2 and 3. In May 2018, a third sub-group was established to deliver on other actions.

1	Standardising a national, high quality, Multidisciplinary Team (MDT) pathway of care, supporting equitable and timely access to safe specialised spinal services
2	Developing a clear transition pathway of care to adult services
3	Optimising use of available physical infrastructure, e.g. Theatres, Outpatient Department (OPD)
4	Service is committed to high quality, evidence based practice, research and audit
5	Option appraisal to inform a national streamlined / standardised central OPD referral pathway for paediatric orthopaedics including spinal service pathway to spinal services by GPs, and other medical professionals
6	Expansion of MDT resources e.g., Physiotherapists, Occupational Therapists, Clinical Nurse Specialists and Consultants, to support enhanced recovery, in parallel, to reducing Length of Stay (LOS), optimising functional recovery and appropriate discharge home
7	Developing proposal / discussion paper for the future development of Paediatric Orthopaedic Services including scoliosis, in line with international best practice
8	Standardising a national approach to the prescription and provision of spinal bracing and/or required orthotics, including seating (to be included in pathway of care)
9	Developing and understanding the IT/ data management system required, to facilitate data classification, coding, diagnostic coding across sites
10	Influencing the development of a national system for monitoring and evaluating patient outcomes to facilitate an outcomes focused service optimising the use of a registry and/or Electronic Health Record (EHR)

Update on Progress

June 2018 Update

Since the approval of the €9.3 million investment in the 2018 HSE Service Plan to support the development of services for paediatric orthopaedics, including scoliosis patients there has been significant change underway in all hospitals delivering spinal surgery. Resources, initiatives and additional supports are being implemented to support both the reduction of the waiting times and to benefit all scoliosis patients across surgery to out-patient appointments in each hospital. These include:

- The appointment of key posts across multiple areas
- Implement of specific initiatives to support surgical intervention
- Funding for specific equipment requirements
- Funding for solutions to support improved data capture and management of patient pathways for the future

Since June 1st 2018, the Children's Hospital Group has demonstrated a reduction in waiting times for Scoliosis surgery resulting from the initiatives and resources that are being put in place. The Children's Hospital Group welcomes this process and are committed to having the children on the active waiting list treated within 4 months by year end.

The following summary table provides a comparison of waitlist numbers between June 1st and June 29th 2018 for both spinal fusion and spinal other for the Children's Hospital Group:

Comparison of patient numbers exceeding 4 month wait for Spinal Fusion: (Active Only)

Spinal Fusion	June 1st 2018	June 29th 2018	Change
Total	37	20	-17

Comparison of patient numbers exceeding 4 month wait for Spinal Other: (Active Only)

Spinal Other	June 1st 2018	June 29th 2018	Change
Total	15	8	-7

Involving Children and Young People

The Children's Hospital Group through the Ombudsman for Children's Office organised workshops to capture the thoughts and ideas of children and young people with experience of Scoliosis Services.

The Children's Hospital Group wanted to hear children and young people's voices about their experiences and how to improve services. We would like to acknowledge the work of the four Youth Advisory Councils (YAC) volunteers who supported the discussions and conversations, and to the Ombudsman for Children's Office for supporting us in the co-delivery of these workshops.

Reductions in the number of children waiting over 4 months for spinal fusion surgery

The number of children awaiting spinal fusion surgery has reduced to 20 patients (active only) as at 29th June 2018

Increase in theatre and MRI capacity

The new orthopaedic OLCCH theatre opened on a phased basis in 2017 providing an increase of 3 additional theatre sessions for day surgery

Additional MRI capacity has been put in place in OLCCH and in the private sector to speed up decision making and reduce waiting times

Increase in Outpatient capacity

Access for patients waiting for a first time consultant appointment (new) has improved with additional clinics continuing throughout 2018 focusing on the longest waiters

Increase in surgeries undertaken year on year

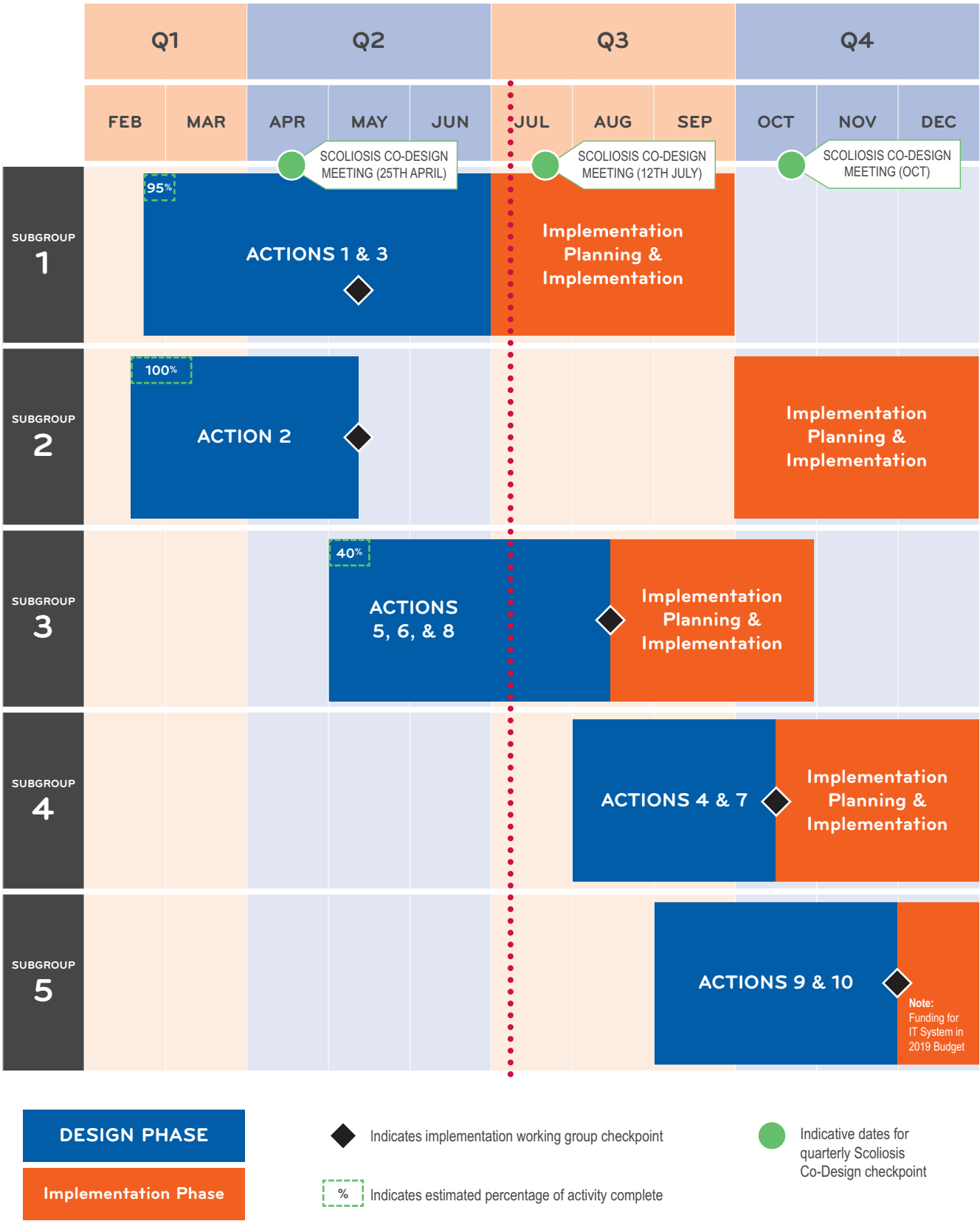
During 2017 132 Spinal Fusion Surgeries were completed.

As of the 6th July 2018 83 Spinal Fusion Surgeries were completed across 3 hospitals.

Increases in medical, nursing and other staff

20 staff so far have been recruited out of the 31.5 planned up to the end of June. Recruitment for the rest of the posts is ongoing including for two general Orthopaedic Surgeons which will allow the Spinal Surgeons to focus on scoliosis cases.

Orthopaedic Surgery Implementation Group: Implementation Plan 2018



Appendix 1

SCOLIOSIS CO-DESIGN GROUP (JUNE 2018)

Brian O'Mahony	Independent Chair, Chief Executive of the Irish Hemophilia Society
Eilish Hardiman	Chief Executive, Children's Hospital Group
Sharon Hayden	Director of Operational Services, OLCCH
Joe Gannon	Chief Operations Officer, CHG
Susan Mulrane	Orthopaedic Senior Service Coordinator, TSCUH
Michelle Long	Scoliosis Advocacy Network Group
Claire Cahill	Scoliosis Advocacy Network Group
Deirdre McDonnell	Scoliosis Awareness & Support
Gary Farrell	Scoliosis Ireland
Pat Kiely	Consultant Orthopaedic Surgeon, OLCCH
Connor Green	Consultant Orthopaedic Surgeon, TSCUH
Dee Shanahan	Directorate Operations Manager, OLCCH
Ciara Cooney	Physiotherapist, OLCCH
Laura Gavin	Scheduled Care Coordinator, TSCUH
Paul Harding	Clinical Integration, CHG
Niamh O'Connor	Administrative Support, CHG

Appendix 2

PAEDIATRIC ORTHOPAEDIC SURGERY IMPLEMENTATION GROUP (JUNE 2018)

Peter Greally	Chair, Clinical Director, CHG
Paula Kelly	Orthopaedics Clinical Lead
David Moore	Orthopaedic / Spinal Consultant
Connor Green	Consultant Orthopaedic Surgeon, TSCUH
Joe Gannon	Chief Operations Officer, CHG
Paul Harding	Clinical Integration, CHG
Patrick Moore	Finance, CHG
Sharon Hayden	Director of Operational Services, OLCCH
Dee Shanahan	Directorate Operations Manager, OLCCH
Karen McGuire	Assistant Director of Nursing, OLCCH
Kevin Burke	HSPC Manager, OLCCH
Keelin Hession	Spinal Clinical Nurse Specialist, OLCCH
Susan Mulrane	Orthopaedic Senior Service Coordinator, TSCUH
Clodagh Barry	Assistant Director of Nursing, TSCUH
Sarah Maidment	Divisional Nurse Manager, TSCUH
Angela Lee	Deputy CEO, Cappagh Hospital
Kathy O'Sullivan	Director of Nursing, Cappagh Hospital
Mark Jeffrey	Directorate Operations Manager, Mater Hospital
Niamh O'Connor	Administrative Support, CHG

