

Classification: Official

Screening Quality Assurance Service


Director of Midwifery

Oxford University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

By email

24 April 2024

Dear **Re: Quality assurance visit to Oxford University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust
antenatal and newborn screening programmes- urgent recommendations**

The Screening QA Service (SQAS) undertook a QA visit to the Oxford University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust on 23 April 2024. The aim of quality assurance in NHS Screening Programmes is to maintain minimum standards and promote continuous improvement in antenatal and newborn screening. The full report from the visit will be available in approximately ten weeks with detailed findings and recommendations.

During the QA visit, five urgent recommendations were made. These are sufficiently important to require actions to be completed by 23 July 2024. Please submit an action plan within 14 working days which outlines the steps to be taken to address the recommendations made.

- Implement a process to identify and manage screening safety incidents in line with national guidance 'Managing safety incidents in NHS screening programmes'
- Document the process for identification and tracking of the cohort through the screening programmes.
- Clarify the process for identification and escalation of risk and issues in antenatal and newborn screening within the trust.
- Review the mandatory screening training pathway for staff including a process to document compliance against training needs.
- Make sure that community midwives have appropriate training for the delivery of the screen positive pathway for sickle cell and thalassaemia.

If you need to discuss this further, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely


Consultant in Public Health
Senior Clinical Lead

Antenatal and Newborn Screening portfolio

CC

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