

Specialist vascular surgery: Summary consultation document

Wednesday 1 July - Tuesday 22 September

Introduction

This consultation is about improving specialist vascular surgery services across Greater Manchester and Eastern Cheshire.

Right now, major surgery happens at two hospitals: Manchester Royal Infirmary (MRI) or Royal Oldham Hospital (ROH).

Our proposal is to bring this into one main hospital at the MRI, while keeping most care such as appointments, tests and follow-up close to home.

We need your feedback to understand what is important to the people who may be affected by the proposed changes and what their needs are. It is important that we consider this when we make the final decision on the best option for changes to specialist vascular surgery.

What is vascular surgery?

Vascular surgery treats conditions affecting blood vessels such as arteries and veins. These problems can be serious and life-threatening such as blocked blood flow, blood clots and weak blood vessel walls (aneurysms).

Treatment can include operations, less invasive procedures, or ongoing care and checks.

Why things need to change

There are several reasons why change is needed:

- More people need care because the population is growing and ageing
- More people have long-term conditions like diabetes and high blood pressure
- There are differences in care and results across the region
- Some people find it harder to access services
- There are staff shortages and pressure on NHS resources

While the current model continues to provide care, it is not the best fit for the future.

Our vision for vascular surgery

Our aim is for a service which can meet future demand and:

- Provides high-quality care for everyone treated by highly experienced teams

- Provides the same standard of care wherever you live across Greater Manchester and Eastern Cheshire

Our proposal is to have one main specialist centre supported by a strong network of local hospitals for routine care – including appointments, tests and follow up care - meaning patients would still get much of their care close to home.

Who will be affected by the change?

This proposal will affect

- People across Greater Manchester and Eastern Cheshire who need vascular surgery and their families/carers throughout their care and recovery
- NHS staff
- GPs and other healthcare professionals
- Hospitals and support services

What are we proposing?

We are proposing that all major vascular surgery happens at one specialist centre at Manchester Royal Infirmary.

Most patients will continue to receive care locally, including appointments, tests and follow-up care.

Only patients needing specialist surgery and overnight care will need to travel to Manchester Royal Infirmary.

Other options were considered, but this option was identified as the safest and most sustainable when assessed by experts and stakeholders.

Why is this considered a good option?

This option was chosen because it:

- Brings specialist staff together, improving safety
- Helps people get faster treatment in emergencies
- Improves the overall quality of care

- Uses staff and resources more effectively and can meet future demand

Why are we only asking about one option?

We are asking about one option because it clearly came out as the best choice.

We looked at different ways to organise vascular surgery. Each option was checked against what matters most, such as:

- Patient safety and quality of care
- Having enough staff
- How easy the service would be to run

The results showed strong agreement that having one specialist centre at Manchester Royal Infirmary would provide the safest and most reliable service for the future. Other options scored lower or would be harder to deliver safely or effectively. National guidance allows us to consult on one to three options. Because one option stood out so clearly, we are focusing on this so we can get clear feedback.

Why you should respond

It is very important that we understand what is important to everybody who has an interest in the future of specialist vascular surgery services. We can only decide based on the information we have. If you have some thoughts, some things you wish us to consider, you need to let us know so that we can take them in to account.

How do you get involved?

We want you to get involved as your feedback will help shape the final decision. You can share your views by completing the survey, attending events or contacting us directly.

You have until **Tuesday 22 September 2026** to give your feedback.

For more detailed information, please visit our [NHS GM get involved webpage](#), text, call or WhatsApp us on: 07786 673762. You can also email: gmhscp.engagement@nhs.net

Useful links to other documents

All these documents are also published in the “What you need to know” tab on our online platform

[Vascular Surgery - Case for Change](#)

[Vascular Surgery - Engagement Report](#)

[Vascular Surgery - Equality Impact Assessment](#)

[Vascular Surgery - Pre Consultation Business Case](#)

[Vascular Surgery - Stakeholder Engagement](#)

[Vascular Surgery - Travel Analysis](#)

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