

# LEEDS GP CONFEDERATION



March 2024 Newsletter  
Enhanced Access, CAPS & AARC

## Introduction

Working as Clinical Lead for the Adult Ambulatory Respiratory Clinic (AARC) offered an insightful and fulfilling experience. As with any new service, each day brought a mix of challenges and rewards.

One of the most satisfying aspects of the role was being able to offer immediate help to patients presenting with acute respiratory problems. We often reviewed patients who had struggled to find appointments elsewhere and were hugely appreciative of our efforts.

The collaborative atmosphere within St George's Centre fostered a strong sense of teamwork and camaraderie. Working closely with the Urgent Treatment Centre team during busy periods highlighted the importance of solidarity in healthcare delivery. The shared goal of providing timely and effective care transcended organizational boundaries, uniting us in a common purpose. This collaborative spirit not only enhanced the efficiency of patient care but also nurtured a supportive environment where everyone felt valued and respected.

The overwhelming positive feedback received from both patients and practices underscored the significance of our work. It was incredibly rewarding to witness the relief and gratitude on the faces of patients who felt supported and reassured by our efforts. I am grateful to have worked with such a brilliant and supportive team at the Leeds GP Confederation and have truly valued this experience.



**Dr Khuram Ahmed**  
Clinical Lead for AARC

## Unsung Hero Awards

This month we attended the Unsung Hero awards, where our fantastic Operational Team was shortlisted for the Admin & Clerical team award!



It was great to see the team recognised as they go above and beyond every day to ensure that our Enhanced Access staff, from clinicians to receptionists are supported in their roles. They are compassionate, inclusive, and exemplify our values and behaviours in their work.



## Our 5th Birthday Mark Gulliver Reflects

This month we celebrated a huge milestone, the Confed's 5th Birthday!

We have come a long way from where we were 5 years ago, and along with the growth of the Confed, several dedicated staff have been with the team since the start, such as Mark Gulliver, Operational Team Leader who first started as a receptionist for the Enhanced Access service!

“From the beginning I thought the Enhanced Access service was a fantastic idea! It suits many people's needs; people are ill seven days a week and if you're working it's hard to get an appointment without taking time off.”

Read Mark's short blog, reflecting on his journey, on our [website here](#).





Our purpose is to enable general practice in Leeds to thrive. That's why we're delivering quality training, based on your feedback, designed to support a strong practice. [Book your training now on our website.](#)

## Garforth Lions PSA Testing Event

Last month we went out to Garforth Country Club to attend Garforth & District Lions Club's PSA testing event.



Three of our Health Care Assistants delivered the Prostate Specific Antigen (PSA) testing at the event, funded by Garforth Lions, which was attended by almost 200 men.

**169**

Received a clear result

**6**

Recommended retesting in a year

**8**

Recommended to consult their GP

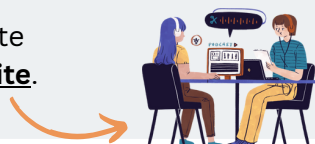
In her short [blog](#), Leah O'Connor, Deputy Operational Team Leader, talks about her experience of the event and the importance of PSA testing. Read now on our [website](#).

## Exploring the Development of CAPS

In this podcast Julie Beer, Lead Nurse and Clinical Lead for the Community Ambulatory Paediatric Service (CAPS), explores the origins of the service, and how collaborative working was key to the development of this highly commended service.

“One of the key takeaways from the development of CAPS is that this would not have been possible without collaboration. We believe that breaking down organisational boundaries yields better patient outcomes and better patient experience.”

Listen to the 6 minute podcast on our [website](#).



## CAPS & AARC End of Services

At the Confed we pride ourselves on supporting primary care access and resilience across the wider system. One way in which we have achieved this is through our Community Ambulatory Paediatric Service (CAPS) and Adult Ambulatory Respiratory Clinic (AARC).

Unfortunately both services will be coming to a close over the next couple of months.

### AARC

AARC was developed in collaboration with WYICB and system partners to help promptly manage patients with symptoms of respiratory infections, especially during times of increased infection rates and pressures on NHS services.

As AARC was developed to run over the winter period the service will end on **28th March 2024**.

### CAPS

CAPS was developed in collaboration with WYICB and system partners to help manage paediatric presentations of acute respiratory symptoms.

The service initially launched in January 2023 as a 3-month winter initiative pilot. However, due to regional underspend and demonstrated impact, the CAPS pilot was extended to cover the 2023/24 financial year.

Due to the non-recurrent funding of the service and no additional money provided from NHS England, further funding for CAPS has not been secured and the service will close on **30th April 2024**.

We want to give our sincere thanks to all colleagues involved in the operational and clinical delivery of both services. We are incredibly grateful for your dedication in delivering these services with excellence, which have been highly valued throughout the system.

