University Hospital Southampton NHS Foundation Trust and AstraZeneca UK Ltd are engaged in a Joint Working project called “Familial Hypercholesterolaemia Cascade Testing Service”.

This project will run from June 2014 to June 2017 and both parties have contributed resources for this initiative.

The objective of this project is to help improve and expand the current Familial Hypercholesterolaemia (FH) service in the following geographical areas. The estimated population is shown in brackets:

- North East Hampshire and Farnham CCG (220,000)
- West Hampshire CCG (536,000)
- South Eastern Hampshire CCG (209,068)
- North Hampshire CCG (216,000)
- Isle of Wight CCG (141,200)
- Portsmouth CCG (215,700)
- Southampton CCG (256,800)
- Fareham & Gosport CCG (198,600)
- Newbury and District CCG (494,964)
- North and West Reading CCG (99,350)
- South Reading CCG (125,000)
- Wokingham CCG (156,000)

FH in the UK is estimated to affect 1 in 500 people. This means that an estimated 110,000 people are affected in the UK, and 5,500 within the target area.

The aims of this project include:
- Identify and ensure appropriate referral of FH patients from primary care into the Wessex FH Cascade Testing Service.
- Where appropriate, genetic testing to be administered to confirm diagnosis. Positively identified patients are cascaded using the PASS database
- Educate and up-skill HCPs in Hampshire on FH

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