

# **Photonet Managed Clinical Network for Phototherapy in Scotland**

## **Annual Report 2021/22**

**Lead Clinician:** Ewan Eadie  
**Programme Manager:** Mhairi Gallacher  
**Programme Support Officer:** Aneta Gorczynski  
**Data Analyst:** Louise Smith  
**Photonet Specialist Technologist:** Iain Foggarty

## **Background**

Photonet provides a framework to facilitate the delivery of standardised quality patient care at the many different phototherapy sites throughout Scotland. The network aims to ensure that patients are managed according to evidence-based procedures and protocols. It audits the practice and outcomes of every centre against agreed standards, hence providing a basis for improving the quality of care. Photonet also provides the sites with information on patients who have extensive exposure to ultraviolet sources for skin cancer monitoring. Educational opportunities are provided to increase the knowledge and confidence of staff delivering phototherapy.

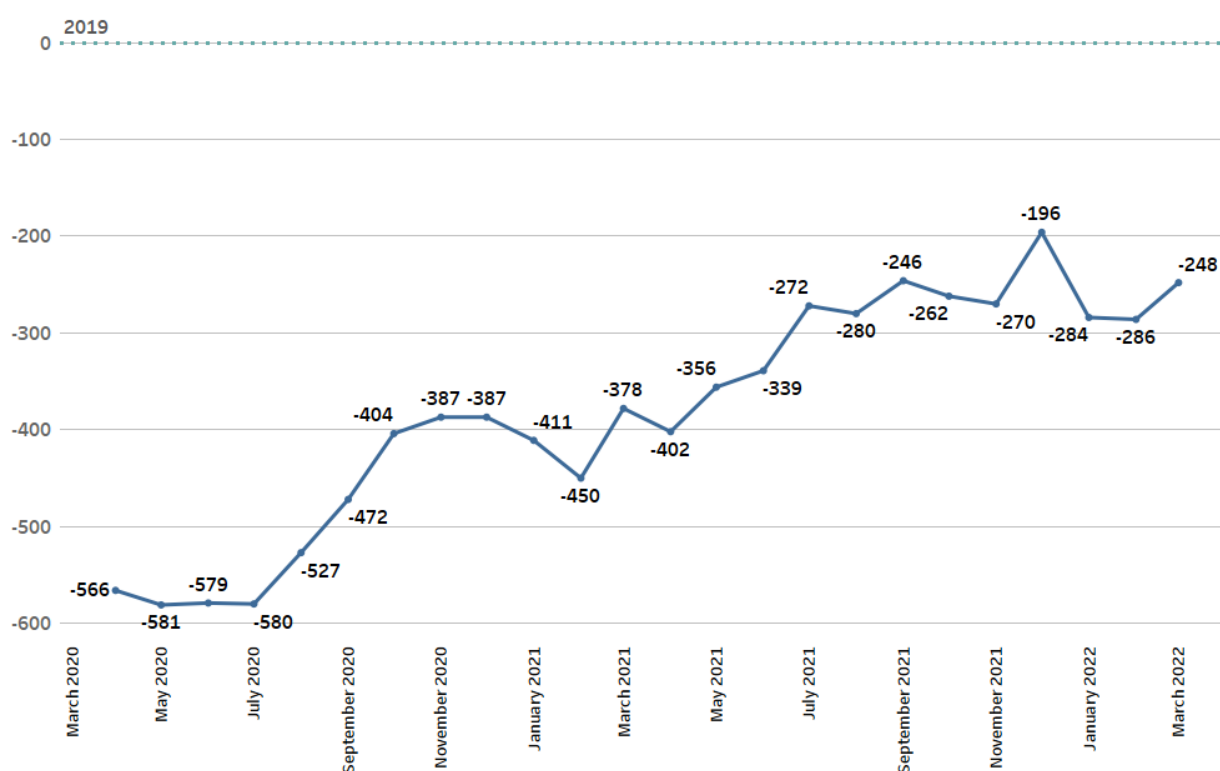
The network vision is that all patients with skin conditions that respond to light therapy will be offered appropriate phototherapy wherever they live in Scotland. This phototherapy will be as effective and safe as possible.

Phototherapy and photochemotherapy (PUVA) are therapies that involve exposing the skin to ultraviolet irradiation. With PUVA, UVA irradiation is combined with the agent psoralen. Phototherapy is a 'light' treatment. PUVA is a drug treatment but with a drug activated by 'light', ensuring treatment effects are targeted to the skin.

## Lead Clinician Reflections

The 2021/22 year was marked by a recently ended national lockdown, continuously high number of COVID-19 cases and a large vaccination program. Core hospital services were stretched and many outpatient departments, including the Dermatology departments within which Phototherapy is situated, were dealing with large patient waiting lists and a need to prioritise critical services, such as skin cancer. Many phototherapy centres were not operational and those that were had reduced patient numbers due to social distancing increased cleaning measures and a responsibility to protect vulnerable patients. The excellent data capture of Photonet (Figure 1) allows visualisation of the treatment numbers, which are slowly increasing but are still only half of pre-COVID-19 levels.

Number of fewer treatments per month compared to the 2019 average of 590 treatments per month



**Fig:1**

On this backdrop, the core team in Photonet made the conscious decision to minimise demand on clinical colleagues and focus efforts on tasks that could be completed without disrupting service provision. In addition to their core functions, the Photonet team worked extremely hard to deliver two large improvement projects. The first of these was the transfer of online learning to a more accessible platform, which has improved equity of education within the Scottish phototherapy community and had the unintended benefit of delivering education for practitioners outside of Scotland. The second project was the upgrade of Photosys, implementing change controls for clinical colleagues, which had been requested a decade ago.

I stand by our decision not to burden our clinical colleagues with additional commitments, and I am very proud of the hard work that Aneta, Iain, Louise and Mhairi have put in during a challenging year for us all, both professionally and personally. The 2022/23 year is the correct time to re-engage with our phototherapy colleagues. There is demand, as seen in our annual conference registration numbers. It will be a slow and steady re-engagement as we support our colleagues to re-initiate services and return to pre-pandemic levels of phototherapy.

As Lead Clinician, I am very keen to focus on our Patient Experience Improvement Project in my final year. It was my aim coming into this role for Photonet to engage more meaningfully with phototherapy service users and the charities which represent them. This has, as yet, to fully materialise, but I hope that we can start down that path so that Photonet can support the phototherapy centres to provide the services their patients want.

## Current Position

The majority of targets within the workplan have been delivered, albeit in some cases with extended timescales due to staff capacity, and this report gives an overview of progress. A full work plan update is available in **Appendix A** on page 13.

## Highlights

**Transfer of Phototherapy Course from Learnpro to TURAS:** The project to transfer the course content from Learnpro was completed at the start of May 2021. The network took the opportunity to update content and implement improvements following feedback from stakeholders. There was also the addition of a facility for the mentoring requirements of the course to be signed off online, ending the administrative burden for paper certificates to be issued. The course transfer ensured that all staff in Scotland had equal access to this learning resource (NHS Grampian and NHS Shetland staff were unable to access the course through the Leanpro platform).

Staff completing the course between May and December were provided with the opportunity to complete an evaluation questionnaire. The majority of the feedback received was positive and, where possible, suggested improvements have been implemented. A report outlining feedback was discussed at the Photonet Steering Group in March 2022. Low completion rates will be investigated to explore if this relates to the mentoring requirement of the course or if there are any other barriers to course completion.

### Numbers Registered/Completed Phototherapy Online Course.

	Registered	Completed (%)
Scotland	133	67 (50%)
Other areas of the UK	67	21 (31%)
Total	200	88 (44%)

**Phase II Photosys Upgrade:** The long-awaited changes were successfully implemented with the upgraded Photosys system launched on 20 December 2021. Improvements included:

- Removal of Health Board restrictions to ensure clinicians have access to the entire patient treatment history regardless of where they were previously treated.
- Skin Cancer Surveillance – better identifying if and when patients have been offered and attended skin review. Area to identify (tag) patients who should be recalled for skin review who may not currently be captured through the annual audit.

**Editors Letter – British Journal of Dermatology:** In an Editors Letter published in response to “Decline in use of phototherapy in France from 2010 to 2019” in the British Journal of Dermatology, Photonet took the opportunity to highlight the importance of a strong network of engaged, educated professionals in ensuring the modality’s continued prominence in Scotland. The Letter highlighted that the network had played a role in Scotland’s stable phototherapy numbers. This is despite the increased availability of targeted therapies (biological therapies).

**Guidelines & Leaflets – Development and Review:** The network completed its timetable to review and develop guidelines as noted in the 2021/22 work plan.

**Incident Reporting:** Photonet maintains a secondary risk register for incidents relating to phototherapy care in Scotland which includes information on incidents that may be potentially relevant on a Scotland-wide basis. These reports are submitted for discussion at Photonet Steering Group meetings and five incidents were discussed during this reporting period. Centres highlighting incidents have already complied with local Health Board reporting procedures. Learning from these incidents will be used to update Photonet patient information leaflets as well as inform the Frequently Asked Questions advice on the Photonet website.

**Photonet Specialist Technologist Update:** One of the reasons for setting up Photonet was the marked variation in dosimetry around the country. Improving this has depended on yearly Photonet dosimetry visits undertaken by the Photonet Technician. A report highlighting the results from these visits and an update on the Phototherapy Phantom Project is available in **Appendix C**.

**Erythema Poster:** Following requests from phototherapists, a poster was developed to assist staff in grading erythema episodes to improve uniformity in grading and data entry on photosys across Scotland. The poster was published on the Photonet website ([Photonet Guidance \(scot.nhs.uk\)](http://Photonet Guidance (scot.nhs.uk))).



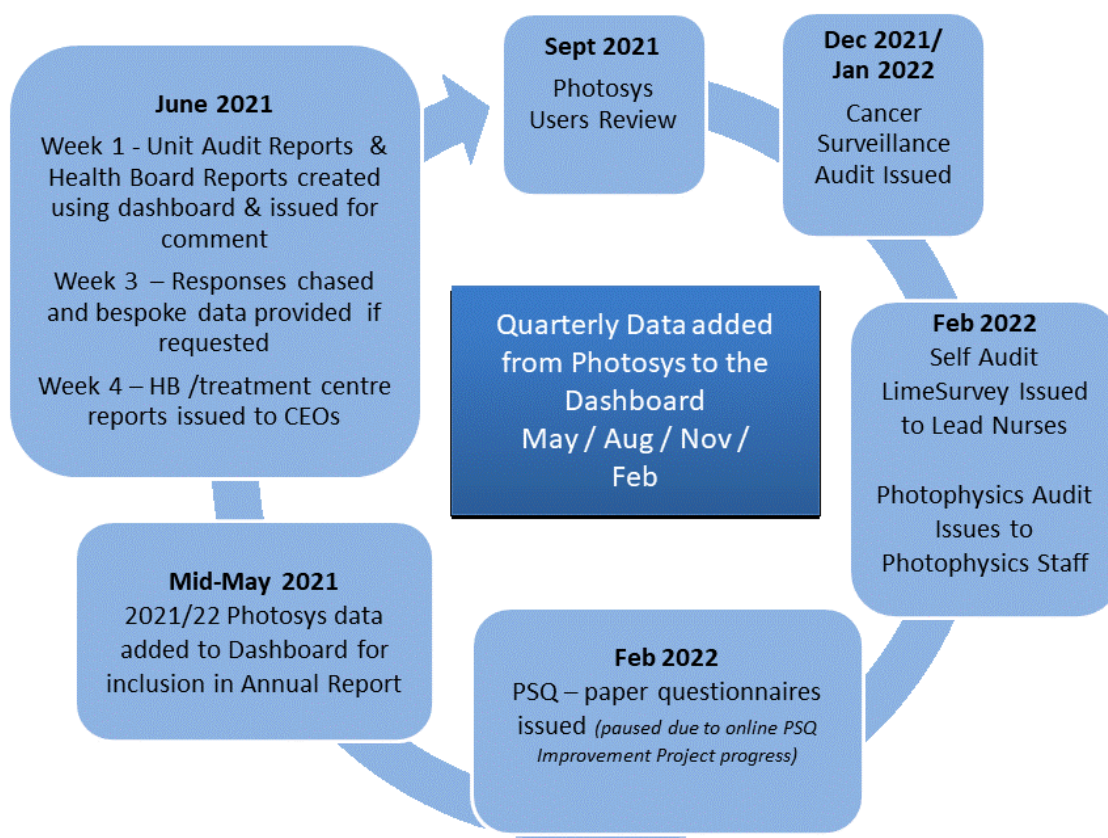
**Fig:2**



## Photonet Audit Cycle 2021/22

Photonet continues to implement a comprehensive audit cycle (fig. 3), including capturing and processing data within the annual reporting year using the Photonet dashboard.

### Photonet Audit Cycle 2021/22



**Fig:3**

**Medical Physics Audit:** The network audits a number of medical photophysics standards annually. Results were submitted by all medical physics departments across Scotland and were discussed at the Photophysics Sub-Group. All the standards were met, and medical physics engagement in the network continues to be high, with excellent communication and information sharing between health boards.

**Skin Surveillance Audit:** Treatment centres were sent the annual list of patients generated from Photosys who met the minimum Photonet criteria for skin monitoring. Given the upgrades to Photosys, staff have been asked to enter data directly onto the system, meaning that data is no longer manually collated by the Photonet Core Team. Photonet will monitor data entry throughout 2022/23 and report findings in next year's annual report.





**Phototherapy Dashboard Data:** Data entered to Photosys continues to be presented using the Photosys Dashboard, which is available to all treatment centres in Scotland. The network supports boards to use this data by providing individual reports of how their treatment centre has performed, including information on treatment numbers of how their area compares against others in Scotland. They are encouraged to investigate any amber or red results to determine why a target has not been achieved and are signposted to the dashboard for more detailed information. 25 out of 39 units took the opportunity to comment on their 2020/21 reports, and their feedback was included in the final reports sent to health board chief executives along with a separate report for health boards as a whole.

3,527 patients received treatment throughout Scotland during this annual reporting period, and there were 3,876 courses of phototherapy administered. It should be noted that several treatment centres have indicated that they have been unable to timeously enter data to Photosys due to competing demands in light of the pandemic; therefore the 2021/22 data may not be complete. 2019/20 was a higher treatment year as patients may have finished their courses of phototherapy early due to covid.

	No of Patients	No of Courses
2018/19	6797	7524
2019/20	7031	7807
2021/22	1234	1342
2022/23	3527	3876



Figure 4 below shows the types of phototherapy, conditions and areas treated, along with treatment outcomes. There have been no significant changes in the Treatment or Diagnosis Type or the Treatment Area.

 <b>Photonet National View</b>		<b>TREATMENT TYPE</b>	
<b>Use the below filters to view data by TC or HB by Financial Year</b>		UVB 89%	PUVA 10%
TC / Health Board Treatment Centre			UVA1 1%
Financial Year 21/22		<b>DIAG TYPE</b>	<b>TREAT AREA</b>
<b>TREATMENT / OUTCOME FILTERS</b>		Psoriasis 50%	Whole Body 87.4%
<div>    </div>		Others 22%	Hands Only 6.4%
Patients		Atopic Eczema 24%	Feet Only 3.7%
3,527		Polymorphic Light Eruption 1%	Localised area 0.9%
Courses		Chron Urticaria 2%	Upper body 0.9%
3,876		Vitiligo 0%	Scalp Only 0.3%
<b>OUTCOME</b>		Mycosis & Pre-M 1%	Legs only 0.3%
Clearance/MRA : 62%			
DNA : 12%			
Moderate Clearance : 11%			
Min Improvement : 6%			
No Change : 4%			
N/A : 2%			
Worse : 3%			

**Fig: 4**

## Outcomes against 5 quality standards for 2021/22 by Treatment Centre

MEDIAN TREATMENTS PER COURSE AND CENTRE OUTCOMES		Referrals within 6 weeks	Clearance Rate	Localised Erythema	Generalised Erythema
Arran War Memorial Hospital	28	1	100%		
Campbeltown Hospital					
Heathfield Suite Ayr	26	69	45%	72%	3%
University Hospital Crosshouse	24	118	41%	63%	
Borders General Hospital	27	8	100%	100%	13%
Dumfries & Galloway RI	26	136	60%	58%	1%
Galloway Community Hospital	30	22	50%	44%	
Queen Margaret Hospital	24	157	56%	67%	31%
Victoria Hospital Kirkcaldy	24	136	51%	73%	1%
Forth Valley Royal Hospital	25	121	50%	70%	1%
Glenochil HM Prison					
Stirling Community Hospital	26	156	78%	79%	1%
Glasgow Royal Infirmary	25	102	61%	77%	1%
Inverclyde Royal Infirmary	20	40	85%	73%	
New Victoria Hospital Glasgow	30	164	32%	70%	1%
Queen Elizabeth University Hospital	26	175	40%	73%	
Royal Alexandra Hospital	25	145	63%	74%	4%
Stobhill Hospital	25	143	35%	79%	
Vale of Leven District General Hospital	22	62	23%	55%	
West Glasgow Ambulatory Care Hospital	25	185	28%	69%	
Aberdeen Royal Infirmary	30	237	29%	84%	
Dr Gray's Hospital	24	83	43%	88%	
Lawson Memorial Hospital	20	33	100%	80%	3%
Lorn & the Islands Hospital	23	5	60%	50%	
Mid Argyll Community Hospital					
Raigmore Hospital	21	101	49%	80%	
University Hospital Hairmyres	27	158	65%	77%	
University Hospital Monklands	30	373	46%	72%	0%
University Hospital Wishaw	27	221	85%	80%	
East Lothian Community Hospital	28	15	73%	86%	
Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh	28	155	52%	80%	3%
St John's Hospital	29	10		50%	
Western General Hospital	25	1		100%	
Dounby Surgery	30	36	31%	80%	6%
Gilbert Bain Hospital	25	21	90%	83%	
Arbroath Infirmary					
Crieff Community Hospital	27	2	50%		
Ninewells Hospital	32	185	41%	64%	
Perth Royal Infirmary	26	136	49%	80%	
Pitlochry Community Hospital	28	1	100%		
St Andrew's Community Hospital	26	60	88%	82%	
Stracathro Hospital	26	72	69%	74%	
Tayside Home Phototherapy	44	19	26%	67%	
Western Isles Hospital	23	6	50%	80%	

Median whole body UVB treatments for psoriasis with outcome of clearance or MRA <30

**90% of all referrals should start treatment within six weeks of referral from Dermatology Outpatients. (Over 90% : Green) (Between 80%-89% : Amber) (Under 80% Red)**

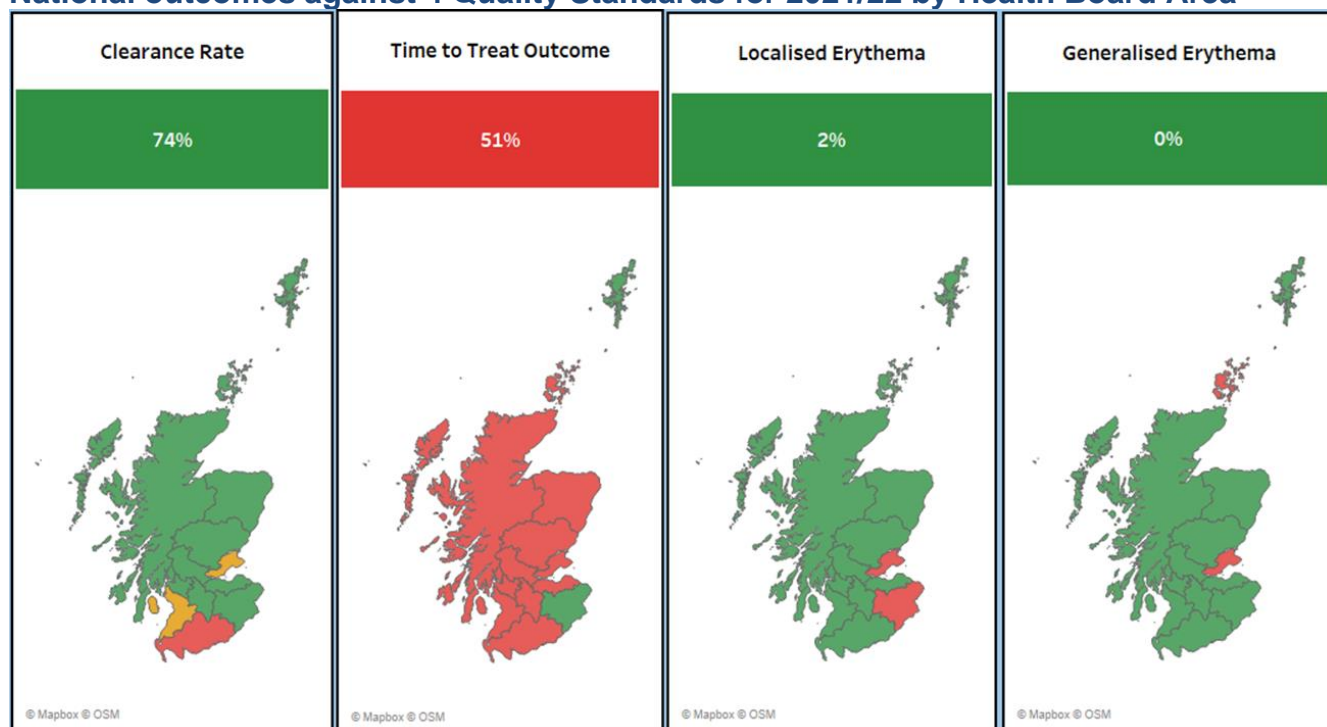
Clearance/near-clearance of whole body UVB psoriasis is the outcome of greater than 70% of completed courses (**>70%:Green**) (**>60%:Amber**) (**<60%: Red**)

Localised Erythema percentage **above 4% will trigger a Red Status.**

Generalised Erythema percentage **above 2% will trigger a Red Status.**

**Fig: 5**

## National outcomes against 4 Quality Standards for 2021/22 by Health Board Area



**Fig: 6**

An update on all business plan objectives for the reporting period can be found in Appendix A.

### Additions to 2021/22 Workplan

**Recording skin clearance following phototherapy:** At the Steering Group meeting on 9 September, it was agreed that a poster would be developed to assist with standardising recording skin clearance following phototherapy. Work has commenced on this objective and will be carried forward to the 2022/23 Business Plan.

**Provision of Home Phototherapy:** At the Annual Performance Review Meeting on 9 September, it was agreed that the network would produce a position paper on the provision of home phototherapy and potential cost benefits. This paper has been drafted and will be finalised as part of the 2022/23 Business Plan.

### Finance

Planned meeting costs have not been incurred; therefore there has been no network spending during this reporting period.

### Exceptions

The following objectives have not been delivered as, given the situation caused by the pandemic, the network was keen to minimise the burden on clinicians. The upgrade to Photosys was also prioritised, given the time and effort required by the Programme Manager and Data Manager.

**Annual Conference:** The Annual conference scheduled to take place in May 2021 was cancelled.

**Patient Experience Quality Improvement Project:** Phase III of the Patient Experience Project to provide the opportunity for all patients undergoing phototherapy across Scotland to submit online feedback about their experiences of their treatment has been paused. It is noted, however, that this cannot be progressed until a manageable system is developed to collate and present this information to phototherapy departments. The network will work with IMS to investigate options for automated feedback visualisation.

### **Looking Forward**

Priorities will include:

- Hosting annual educational phototherapy conference.
- Production of annual audit reports for health boards and phototherapy treatment centres in Scotland using the dashboard.
- Phase 2 of Patient Experience Improvement Project
- Develop a poster to assist staff in identifying skin clearance at the end of a course of treatment, to improve uniformity in data entry across Scotland.
- Produce a report on the impact of Covid-19 on phototherapy services in Scotland.
- Continuation of Lightweight Phototherapy Phantom QI project.
- Finalise position paper on providing home phototherapy and potential cost benefits
- Development of Photonet Quality Strategy.
- Guidance on What to do in case of Phototherapy overdose. Add to FAQs on the website.
- Review of guidelines and leaflets as per timetable.

Previous workplan objectives which were postponed due to the pandemic will be revisited and progressed as appropriate:

- analysing gaps in phototherapy service
- requesting feedback from lead clinicians on plans for improving equity of access within their areas
- establish links with patient networks/groups
- undertake improvement project to increase dashboard engagement.

The draft 2022/23 workplan is available in ***Appendix B***.

**Photonet Lead Clinician:** Dr Eadie's tenure has been extended until March 2023. Members will be invited to apply for the Lead Clinician role, which will be advertised during the year.

**Phototherapy Phantom Improvement Project:** A programming issue has been identified, requiring some time from GGC developers to upgrade. The current system would also need to be upgraded to work with the new meter. Costs to be finalised for the upgrade.

# Photonet Business Plan 2021-22

## Service Delivery Plan

## Appendix A

Core principles	Description of Work	Current status	Start Date:	End date:	RAG Status
Education	Finalise the launch of the Turas Course to all health board areas in Scotland.	Course successfully launched in May 2021.	01/05/2021	30/06/2021	C
Education	Evaluate the newly available Turas Course. Evaluation questionnaire issued at the end of each month to those completing the course.	Feedback collated from May to Dec and reported at PSG meeting in March 2022. Suggested improvements implemented whenever possible.	01/06/2021	31/12/2021	C
Service Development and Delivery	Part 1 Implement changes to Photosys	Project complete.	27/05/2021	30/11/2021	C
Service Development and Delivery	Part 2 Implement Business Objects updates following implementation of change controls.	Business Objects changes complete.	01/09/2021	01/12/2021	C
Service Development and Delivery	Phase 2 of Phototherapy Phantom Improvement Project - field testing and evaluation of phantom.	BOSCARD completed. Phantom being used during dosimetry visits. Initial reporting of results commenced. Programming issue identified which will require some time from GGC to upgrade. Current system needs to be upgraded to work with new meter. Results will be presented at annual meeting in May 2022. Published paper in 2 years time. CARRIED FORWARD TO 2022/23.	01/06/2021	31/03/2022	G
Service Development and Delivery	The network will develop a poster to assist staff in grading erythema episodes and improve uniformity in grading across Scotland.	Endorsed at SG meeting on 9 September	01/08/2021	30/09/2021	C
Audit and Continuous Quality Improvement	Produce an academic paper around the impact of Covid-19 on phototherapy services in Scotland.	Editors letter printed in British Association of Dermatology Journal in response to paper published on the decline of Phototherapy in France. Further paper to be written. CARRIED FORWARD TO 2022/23.	01/10/2021	31/12/2021	G

Service Development and Delivery	The network will develop a poster to assist staff in identifying skin clearance at end of course of treatment to improve uniformity in data entry across Scotland.	Additional objective added at Steering Group Meeting on 9 September. Work has commenced. CARRIED FORWARD TO 2022/23.	01/10/2021	31/03/2022	<b>G</b>
Audit and Continuous Quality Improvement	Develop Phase III of the Patient Experience Improvement Project to widen the opportunities and methods for patients to give feedback on their experiences.	Project delayed due to Photosys upgrade project. CARRIED FORWARD TO 2022/23.	01/11/2021	31/03/2022	<b>A</b>
Service Development and Delivery	Produce position paper on the provision of home phototherapy and potential cost benefits	Additional objective added at Annual Performance Review Meeting on 9 September. A report was drafted, and comments from Steering Group members were added. To be finalised. CARRIED FORWARD TO 2022/23.	01/11/2021	31/03/2022	<b>G</b>



## Business as Usual Plan

Core principles	Description of Work	Current status	Start Date:	End date:	RAG Status
Stakeholder Communication and Engagement	Continue to ensure the website is informative and up to date.	Website updated regularly. Service Map Updated/	01/04/2021	31/03/2022	C
Effective Network Structure and Governance	Core Team Meetings	Fortnightly Core Team meetings.	01/04/2021	31/03/2022	C
Effective Network Structure and Governance	Photophysics Sub-Group Meetings	Photophysics Meetings are held twice yearly.	28/10/2021	28/10/2021	C
Effective Network Structure and Governance	2020/21 Annual Report	Completed	01/04/2021	31/05/2021	C
Audit and Continuous Quality Improvement	Produce 2020/21 annual health board and treatment centre audit reports using the Photonet Dashboard.	Completed	01/04/2021	31/08/2021	C
Effective Network Structure and Governance	Lead Clinician Recruitment	Post extended until the end of March 2023. PO Raised and invoices processed.	01/09/2021	31/03/2022	C
Effective Network Structure and Governance	Steering Group Meetings	Meeting on 9 September & 17 March.	01/07/2021	31/03/2022	C
Effective Network Structure and Governance	Ensure the Network is organised to effectively deliver its objectives through regular review of documentation.	Due to a pause in network activity, there has been some slippage around timescales. Some documents will now be reviewed as part of the 2022/23 timetable.	01/07/2021	31/03/2022	A
Stakeholder Communication and Engagement	Publish Annual Report on Website	Completed	01/04/2021	31/03/2022	C
Audit and Continuous Quality Improvement	Maintain a secondary risk register for incidents relating to phototherapy care in Scotland and discuss incidents at Steering Group meetings.	Incidents discussion at SG meetings.	01/04/2021	31/03/2022	C
Effective Network Structure and Governance	2021/22 Mid Year Report	Completed	01/10/2021	31/10/2021	C

Stakeholder Communication and Engagement	Publish minutes on the website	Completed	01/04/2021	31/03/2022	C
Stakeholder Communication and Engagement	Newsletter	Issued in December 2021 and available on the website.	01/11/2021	30/11/2021	C
Service Development and Delivery	The network will assist units to achieve the Skin Cancer Surveillance Standards by identifying patients for review and annually auditing the offering of appointments.	Data issued.	01/01/2022	31/01/2022	C
Effective Network Structure and Governance	The network will review its Quality Strategy.	Endorsed at SG meeting on 17 March.	01/01/2022	31/03/2022	C
Stakeholder Communication and Engagement	The network will review its communication strategy.	Endorsed at SG meeting on 17 March.	01/01/2022	31/03/2022	C
Education	The network will review its education strategy.	Endorsed at SG meeting on 17 March.	01/01/2022	31/03/2022	C
Audit and Continuous Quality Improvement	Photophysics standards will be audited and results will be presented to the Photophysics Sub-Group for consideration and action as required.	Audit carried out in March 2022. Rolling programme. Timetable up to date for this reporting period and results discussed at meeting in April 2022.	01/02/2022	31/03/2022	C
Effective Network Structure and Governance	2022/23 Workplan Objectives	Discussed at SG Meeting on 17 March.	01/02/2022	31/03/2022	C
Audit and Continuous Quality Improvement	Audit Phototherapy provision against 21 agreed standards and present outcomes in the Dashboard for inclusion in 2021/22 annual health board and treatment centre reports.	Audit issued in March 22. Rolling programme. Timetable up to date for this reporting period.	01/03/2022	31/03/2022	C

# Photonet Draft Business Plan 2022-23

## Service Delivery Plan

## Appendix B

Core principles	Description of Work	Current status	Start Date:	End date:	RAG Status
Service Development and Delivery	Phase 2 of Phototherapy Phantom Improvement Project - field testing and evaluation of phantom.	CARRIED FORWARD TO 2022/23.	01/04/2022	31/03/2023	
Audit and Continuous Quality Improvement	Produce an academic paper on the impact of Covid-19 on phototherapy services in Scotland.	CARRIED FORWARD TO 2022/23.	01/04/2022	31/03/2023	
Service Development and Delivery	The network will develop a poster to assist staff in identifying skin clearance at the end of a course of treatment to improve uniformity in data entry across Scotland.	CARRIED FORWARD TO 2022/23.	01/04/2022	31/03/2023	
Audit and Continuous Quality Improvement	Develop Phase III of the Patient Experience Improvement Project to widen the opportunities and methods for patients to give feedback on their experiences.	CARRIED FORWARD TO 2022/23.	01/04/2022	31/03/2023	
Service Development and Delivery	Produce position paper on the provision of home phototherapy and potential cost benefits	CARRIED FORWARD TO 2022/23.	01/04/2022	31/03/2023	
Service Development and Delivery	Guidance on What to do in case of Phototherapy overdose. Add to FAQs on the website.		01/04/2022	31/03/2023	
Service Development and Delivery	<p>Previous workplan objectives which were postponed due to the pandemic will be revisited and progressed as appropriate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>analysing gaps in phototherapy service</li> <li>requesting feedback from lead clinicians on plans for improving equity of access within their areas</li> <li>establish links with patient networks/groups</li> <li>undertake improvement project to increase dashboard engagement.</li> </ul>		01/04/2022	31/03/2023	

## Business as Usual Plan

Core principles	Description of Work	Current status	Start Date:	End date:	RAG Status
Stakeholder Communication and Engagement	Continue to ensure the website is informative and up to date.		01/04/2022	31/03/2023	
Effective Network Structure and Governance	Core Team Meetings		01/04/2022	31/03/2023	
Effective Network Structure and Governance	Photophysics Sub-Group Meetings		01/04/2022	31/03/2023	
Effective Network Structure and Governance	Annual Conference		01/04/2022	31/04/2022	
Effective Network Structure and Governance	2020/21 Annual Report		01/04/2022	31/03/2023	
Audit and Continuous Quality Improvement	Produce 2020/21 annual health board and treatment centre audit reports using the Photonet Dashboard.		01/04/2022	31/03/2023	
Effective Network Structure and Governance	Lead Clinician Recruitment		01/04/2022	31/03/2023	
Effective Network Structure and Governance	Steering Group Meetings		01/04/2022	31/03/2023	
Effective Network Structure and Governance	Ensure the Network is organised to effectively deliver its objectives through regular review of documentation.		01/04/2022	31/03/2023	
Stakeholder Communication and Engagement	Publish Annual Report on Website		01/04/2022	31/03/2023	
Audit and Continuous Quality Improvement	Maintain a secondary risk register for incidents relating to phototherapy care in Scotland and discuss incidents at Steering Group meetings.		01/04/2022	31/03/2023	
Effective Network Structure and Governance	2021/22 Mid Year Report		01/10/2022	31/10/2022	
Stakeholder Communication and Engagement	Publish minutes on the website		01/04/2022	31/03/2023	
Stakeholder Communication and Engagement	Newsletter		01/11/2022	30/11/2022	
Service Development and Delivery	The network will assist units to achieve the Skin Cancer Surveillance Standards by identifying patients for review and annually auditing the offering of appointments.		01/01/2023	31/01/2023	

Audit and Continuous Quality Improvement	Photophysics standards will be audited and results presented to the Photophysics Sub-Group for consideration and action.		01/02/2023	31/03/2023	
Effective Network Structure and Governance	2022/23 Workplan Objectives		01/02/2023	31/03/2023	
Audit and Continuous Quality Improvement	Audit Phototherapy provision against 21 agreed standards and present outcomes in the Dashboard for inclusion in 2021/22 annual health board and treatment centre reports.		01/03/2023	31/03/2023	

### Photonet Specialist Technician Report

In the 2021/22 year, 27/38 active sites were visited by the Photonet technologist. The yearly target is 66%, which is 25 of the 38 active sites. This encompassed 32/45 UVB cabinets, 17/24 UVA cabinets, 7 UVB hand and foot units and 12 UVA hand and foot units. The absolute median percentage difference between Photonet and local measurements for UVB cabinets was 5%, compared to 13% for the last completed survey year in 2018/19. Similarly, the difference was 8.2% for UVA cabinets, compared to 10.8% for 2018/19. For hand and foot units, the difference was 8.42% for UVB units and 8.16% for UVA units. This was the first year in which hand and foot units were surveyed, so no data from previous years exists to make a comparison. No sites using HoPE units were visited and no comparisons were made with MED testers because many local centres have yet to finalise their dosimetry on these devices.

The new dosimetry phantom was delivered by the Glasgow MDU in April and brought into use in June. The overall absolute median percentage difference between Photonet and local centres for all cabinets surveyed using the phantom was 7.6%, compared with 11.2% for the same cabinets in 2018/19. In its first year, the new dosimetry phantom has provided encouraging results and will continue to be evaluated against historical data across the forthcoming year.

The Photonet technologist attended a phototherapy dosimetry training course in Cardiff in March, allowing them to learn how phototherapy centres operate in the rest of the UK. The lectures in the course were more focused on the risk assessment aspect of dosimetry and spectroradiometry rather than internal cabinet dosimetry. However, from these lectures and discussions with some of the attendees, it appears that all medical physics aspects of phototherapy in each NHS England health board operate independently from one another, with little to no data or information shared between them. There is no network like Photonet in operation elsewhere in the UK.

**Ian Foggarty**  
**Photonet Specialist Technologist**