

Medical Devices Policy Practice Guidance Note Equipment Replacement– V05		
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1 OUTLINE

- 1.1 Forward planning is an essential requirement of any efficient organisation and safety must never be compromised. An equipment replacement plan will help to guide Cumbria, Northumberland, Tyne and Wear NHS Foundation Trust (the Trust) on potential future spending obligations relating to medical devices, and will be monitored through the Medical Devices Safety Group
- 1.2 Equipment will be allocated a nominal life expectancy at purchase by the Medical Devices Department, with advice from the manufacturer. This nominal life expectancy will take account of both expected technical life and expected functional life and should form the basis of the financial life of the equipment.
- 1.3 An outline of the following equipment replacement procedures is included in Appendix 1.
- 1.4 When equipment is reaching the end of its nominal life, a decision should be made by the Clinical Lead for PPE/Medical Devices in collaboration with other staff to determine: -
 - If the service provision for which the equipment is used, is still required
 - If the equipment (or newer version) is still required to provide the service

- If the equipment needs replacing now or does it still have an acceptable capability and function
 - What priority is placed on this replacement
- 1.5 The replacement programme of equipment will be discussed and agreed at the Medical Devices Safety Group. The programme will be submitted to the Trust quality and performance and Capital Management Group for approval
Upon confirmation that the resources required are available, normal procurement procedures should be followed.
- 1.6 Equipment may not meet its anticipated life expectancy due to a number of reasons including: -
- Changes in legislation, regulations or Health Service Guidance
 - Advances in technology
 - Changes in the method of service provision
 - Discontinuation of device or required consumables

A decision as to the need for the equipment to be replaced **must** be assessed.

2 **NON-URGENT REPLACEMENT OF EQUIPMENT**

- 2.1 The equipment replacement plan would follow the normal procurement procedures

3 **URGENT REPLACEMENT OF EQUIPMENT**

- 3.1 If replacement equipment is determined as being required urgently, this must be highlighted to Medicaldevice@CNTW.nhs.uk. The normal procurement procedure should then be followed with allowances for the urgency of the situation.

Refer to MD PGN 04, as detailed in practice guidance note – MD-PGN-02 - Procurement

Safety must never be compromised