

The Virtual Ward – current model

- A Community Ward with patients cared for in their own homes
- Virtual Ward Co-ordinator (Advanced Nurse Practitioner)
- Monday – Friday 9 to 5 model



The Virtual Ward and TYC

- Dedicated Community Ward Team (a core team of generalists) district, treatment room and practice nurses, GPs in and out-of-hours, AHPs, CPNs and social care staff
- Led by District Nursing Sister
- An 'outer' specialist team of GP's with a Specialist Interest (GPwSI), specialist nurses, specialist AHPs and Community Outreach Consultants.
- Rapid access to Specialist Hospital Teams



New Skill set for District Nursing Sisters

- Enhanced Change Management skills
- Enhanced Leadership skills
- Enhanced Management Skills
- Enhanced Service User involvement key



New Skill set required for Community Nurses

- Knowing Early Warning signs – knowing when to escalate
- Management of deteriorating Respiratory Function
- Condensed Case Management Course
- Enhanced core skills e.g. Sounding chests, IV drug administration, cannulation, blood transfusions, chemotherapy
- All will require Health Assessment Module
- Non Medical Prescribing Course
- Information Technology – Telehealth/electronic patient records
- Need to develop a programme around Older people/co-morbidities/Dementia – for Advanced Nurse Practitioners

