



South Tyneside and Sunderland
NHS Foundation Trust


Planning New Builds and Developing Business Cases

What I Wish I'd Known at the Beginning

Graeme Richardson - Chief Pharmacist

excellence
in all that we do

Introduction


- The SRH Aseptic Unit constructed in 1996 is 29 years old it has exceeded its lifespan.
 - Recent changes to HTM03-01 - Specialised ventilation for healthcare premises Part A: Recommends that AHUs do not exceed 20 years for replacement.
 - Unit was an old design with 4 out of 6 filters failing, hard to source and hard to seal.
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Introduction (Cont.)


- EL(97)52 Audits mentioned that there was a need to replace the unit for circa 6 years.
- The Assurance of Aseptic Preparation of Medicines Audit in January 2024 classed the unit as a significant risk.
- Now escalated to Stage 2 of the Compliance Management Process.




Options and Considerations

- How long will your current unit last?
 - It will take many years to get a replacement unit.
 - Location –Offsite v Onsite v Current footprint (What space do you have)?
 - Radio-Pharmacy and Aseptic Unit v Aseptic Unit?
 - Section 10 v Licensed?
 - Is there a regional strategy?
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Design

- Estates, Architect and other providers, there will be more opinions than hot dinners!
 - Design before URS?
 - Expansion or future requirements for ATMPs.
 - Build a Grade B but operate a Grade C.
 - You need directional flow of product but what about staff?
 - Sustainability, recirculation, heat recovery and power requirements.
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Design (Cont.)

- Vented hatches and the number required.
 - Manual handling requirements of technetium generators.
 - Benches versus mobile cabinets and workspaces.
 - Traditional isolators v gassing isolators v isolators that can be gassed? (laminar flow with automatic sterilisation?).
 - Negative pressure versus positive pressure.
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Business Case

- Know the process, your committees and your Board these are big projects.
 - Business case will contain capital and revenue consequences.
 - There will be an expectation that a new unit will be more efficient.
 - Increased staffing requirement and potentially different staff required.
 - Cost of isolators and fit out.
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Business Case (Cont.)

- Implications of building remotely.
 - There will be many versions so watch out for version control and what you are asking for.
 - Future options for income generation, e.g. over labelling, making for other Trusts?
 - Capital Availability and Capital Departmental Expenditure Limits (CDEL).
 - Complexities if working with other Trusts inc. TUPE.
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Business Case (Cont.)

- How you link to Regional Hubs.
- Watch out for Politics.





Questions?