## Mark Drakeford AC / AM Y Gweinidog lechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol Minister for Health and Social Services



Kirsty Williams

Kirsty.williams@wales.gov.uk

1st October 2014

Dear Kirsty,

Firstly can I apologise that you did not receive a letter following your exchange with the First Minister on Tuesday 3 June regarding selective internal radiation therapy (SIRT).

In February I agreed that the NHS in Wales would join the Commissioning Through Evaluation process to enable access for a small number of patients to SIRT and provided central funding to support this. WHSSC then began a process of establishing arrangement with NHS England to put the service in place.

It was initially considered that the service could not be delivered in Cardiff due to requirements to meet specific designation criteria and therefore patients selected would have to receive the treatment in England. However positive clinical discussions have recently taken place regarding the implementation of the programme. Cardiff and Vale University Health Board made a successful application to Welsh Health Specialised Services to provide SIRT at University Hospital Wales. It has now been confirmed by the NHS England Commissioning through Evaluation Programme that UHW does meet the standards and requirements for selection as a provider of SIRT

Agreement has been reached for NHS Wales to participate in the programme and patient assessment for SIRT will commence this month.

The Christie Hospital in Manchester is the selected SIRT centre meeting the commissioning though evaluation criteria for North West England and North Wales.

I hope you find this information useful and I apologise again a letter was not issued at the time.

Mark Drakeford AC / AM

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