

North West Chapter report:

Capacity pressures have peaked in North West Hospitals and Colorectal surgery has faced high levels of cancelled operations as in-patient beds and Critical care beds have been at a premium. We hope that normal services will recover as we enter February. The impact on semi-urgent and 'non-urgent' patients remains to be seen.

There are huge changes in regional colorectal configuration occurring with the merger of two major colorectal units in Manchester. There may be many learning points from this amalgamation which will lead to an unprecedented centralisation of major emergencies and major colorectal operating in the north-west.

The North-West Chapter will meet in April for our yearly meeting. The programme is being currently designed. Details to follow and will be circulated.

The chapter is also collaborating with an NIHR research meeting organised by Sarah Duff highlighting and showcasing North West Colorectal research and we look forward to an excellent event on March 14th.

Educationally there is an upcoming advanced colorectal cancer course at Christie and an inaugural and innovative Da Vinci Xi Robotic Colorectal Surgery Course for Registrars at Preston in February.

Arnab Bhowmick