

NHS NORTH WEST LONDON ICS - MESSAGE TO ALL NWL GP PRACTICES

11th October 2023

This cancer GP bulletin contains updates for GPs and their practice staff on the following:

REMINDER – CHANGES TO CANCER WAITING TIMES

1. Information for GP Practices

BOWEL CANCER

- 2. London Bowel Screening Campaign running from 16th October 2023 – 3rd December 2023.**
- 3. Supporting patients completing FIT if symptomatic – webinars for primary care administrators and clinicians**

BREAST CANCER

- 4. Breast Cancer Awareness month - maximising Breast Screening uptake for first invitees**

MOVEMBER FUNDING OPPORTUNITY

- 5. Request for Proposals – Prostate Cancer Health Equity Initiative**

CANCER EDUCATION

- 6. The Royal Marsden FREE Breast and GI cancers GP Education Day – 19th October**
- 7. Cancer Community of Practice – Upcoming events (FAO Primary Care Nurses and AHPs)**
 - 18th October** - Developing Quality Improvement approaches to improve patient outcomes across cancer services in London
 - 15th November** - Barriers to cancer screening for LGBTQI+ Communities
- 8. RMP Cancer Education Programme**

REMINDER – CHANGES TO CANCER WAITING TIMES

From 1 October, the standards measuring waiting times for cancer diagnosis and treatment are being modernised and simplified.

The NHS will move from the 10 different standards in place now to three:

- **Faster Diagnosis Standard:** a diagnosis or ruling out of cancer within 28 days of referral (set at 75%)
- **31-day treatment standard:** commence treatment within 31 days of a decision to treat for all cancer patients (set at 96%)
- **62-day treatment standard:** commence treatment within 62 days of being referred or consultant upgrade (set at 85%)

The main changes are:

- Removal of the Two Week Wait standard requiring a first appointment within two weeks
- Combining together the first and subsequent treatment 31-day standards to create one headline performance standard.
- Combining together the Urgent Suspected Cancer GP referral, Urgent Screening and Consultant Upgrade 62-day standards to create one headline performance standard for all patients.

NB: there is no change to the way GPs refer patients onto Urgent Suspected Cancer pathways. The only change is that the NHS will measure how well it is dealing with those referrals by looking at speed of actual diagnosis, not whether the patient has a first appointment within a fortnight.

The data submitted by providers will not change, and until the language in the Cancer Waiting Times dataset is updated, expected to be in 2024/25, GPs and providers should still use the “Priority type – Two Week Wait” data item to record performance against this pathway.

Different practices and providers have different processes in place for checking up on patients they’ve referred to make sure they’ve been seen. In many instances, these won’t need to change. Protocols should be agreed locally between primary and secondary care teams so that GPs know how quickly they should expect patients to be contacted.

While in many cases safety netting has historically followed the two week wait standard, i.e. GPs would follow up a patient, or ask the patient to contact them directly after two weeks if they haven’t been seen, there was never any requirement to align in this way. Local areas should also consider whether they wish to set an expectation that patients should be seen either for their first diagnostic test or their first outpatient appointment even more quickly than the previous two weeks, in order to meet the more ambitious 28 Day Faster Diagnosis Standard.

GP referrals should be made and retrieved through e-RS and first booking made direct from e-RS by providers. The GP will then be able to see the appointment has been booked and is able to put a local escalation process in place if necessary.

It is the responsibility of providers to make sure that the copy in letters generated by e-RS to patients when they are referred onto urgent suspected cancer pathways is updated as necessary.

More information is available here: [NHS England » Cancer](#)

BOWEL CANCER

BOWEL CANCER SCREENING CAMPAIGN – 16TH OCTOBER 2023 - 3RD DECEMBER 2023

FOR INFORMATION

- As part of the NHS 'Help Us, Help You' campaign, a bowel screening campaign will be running from **16th October 2023 - 3rd December 2023**.
- The campaign strategy to encourage participation in bowel screening will focus on:
 - **Normalising the behaviour of completing the home test kit** - Inform our audience of the test kit's purpose and show lots of people like them are taking the test (to increase relevance) while removing the awkwardness; and
 - **Addressing the barriers to taking action, including the inertia of this not being a priority**, the misperception that screening is only for those that are experiencing symptoms or family history of bowel cancer, and concerns about efficacy that it is difficult and messy to complete the screening home test kit.
 - **Removing the awkwardness of taking a poo sample with optimistic language, music and tone** - "your poo could save your life" encouraging enthusiasm towards the test;
 - **Reducing the efficacy concerns by demonstrating that it is quick and easy** to complete the test and only requires a 'tiny sample'; and
 - **Addressing inertia through giving practical advice**, with the headline: "put it by the loo, don't put it off"

The campaign will run across a range of avenues - TV, VOD, community radio, social media. The London campaign brief for bowel cancer screening includes a focus on the following multicultural audiences:

- Black African and Black Caribbean,
- Pakistani and Bangladeshi,
- Muslim (all groups)
- Eastern European (Polish and Romanian) and
- Orthodox Jewish

You may see an increase in patients asking about the Bowel Screening programme, or who may request a bowel cancer screening test. Patients should be encouraged to take up the screening offer, if in the eligible age cohort and can contact the Bowel Cancer Screening programme on 0800 707 60 60 to request a test.

SUPPORTING PATIENTS COMPLETING FIT IF SYMPTOMATIC WEBINARS FOR PRIMARY CARE ADMINISTRATORS AND CLINICIANS

FOR INFORMATION

- A webinar discussing the role of FIT and how administrative staff can best support patients took place on 19 September.
- Produced by GatewayC and supported by TCST, NHS England and the Greater Manchester Cancer Alliance Early Diagnosis Team, the webinar was attended by over 160 people from across England. Primary care specialists discussed the role of the Faecal Immunochemical Test (FIT) in early cancer diagnosis, the difference between screening and symptomatic FIT, how administrative staff can best support patients to complete and return a FIT, why samples are rejected and safety netting guidance.
- There was also a Q&A session at the end for attendees to ask questions.
- You can catch up with the webinar on-demand free here <https://bit.ly/3rHAo1u> (registration required).

A webinar for primary care clinical staff has been scheduled for 8 November 2023, 13:00 - 13:30. You can register [here](#).



BREAST CANCER

BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

FOR INFORMATION

- Every October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month, which is marked worldwide to show support for everyone affected by breast cancer.
- As the uptake amongst women attending their first appointment is less than 50 per cent the focus of the NHSE campaign is on those aged 50+ because if an individual comes for their first screening they are more likely to come forward for subsequent screening appointments.
- The NHS England Vaccinations and Screening team recently commissioned insight work to better understand people's views on breast screening. This research focused on understanding the barriers to attending screening appointments.
- Key findings:
 - There was fear and anxiety that the procedure would be painful and uncomfortable. There were suggestions that information about what to expect could help with this.
 - People were put off because they didn't know what to expect – fear of the unknown.

- Participants who felt embarrassment talked about discomfort in showing their body.
 - Participants typically noted that it would be important for them to know that a female healthcare professional would carry out the procedure.
 - Some said that more information about what to expect could help prepare people and would help combat some of these feelings of fear, anxiety and embarrassment.
- Using this insight work to inform messaging, NHSE has developed content relevant for different groups and communities. It will focus on helping people to know what to expect, to address the fear and embarrassment that is a barrier for many. **This includes GP Practice video screen and social assets.**

Breast Cancer Awareness Month – October Toolkit	 20230922_BCA month Oct 2023 Cor
Video Display images	 Breast screening AV screen 1920x1080px

MOVEMBER FUNDING OPPORTUNITY

- Movember is seeking Respondents to submit a proposal to its Prostate Cancer Health Equity Initiative.
- The Initiative aims to fund projects that build or strengthen the evidence base of promising approaches that contribute to health equity, promoting the inclusion and improved outcomes of marginalised and traditionally underrepresented populations of men at risk of or diagnosed and living with prostate cancer.
- The details about the opportunity and how to apply can be found here: <https://uk.movember.com/about/funding>
- **KEY DATES:**
 - Deadline for Expressions of Interest:** 16 November 2023
 - Invitation to Full Proposal:** Week of 18 December 2023
 - Deadline for Full Proposals:** 23 February 2024
 - Notices of Decisions:** Late April 2024
- All enquiries relating to this funding opportunity should be directed to the grants management team at pcahealthequitygrants@movember.com

CANCER EDUCATION

THE ROYAL MARSDEN FREE BREAST AND GI CANCERS GP EDUCATION DAY **19TH OCTOBER – 09:00 – 13:00**

FOR INFORMATION

Register for the GP Education Day on 19 October focusing on Breast and GI cancers on Eventbrite:

**Breast and GI cancers GP Education Day Tickets, Thu 19 Oct 2023 at 09:00 |
Eventbrite**

- The GP Education Day will be held in-person at the state-of-the-art Oak Cancer Centre in Sutton, Surrey – the agenda for the event is included.
- There will also be virtual tickets available to watch this event live online.
- Please book your place by registering for limited in-person tickets. Please note that the event is being recorded, will be stored, and available to view on our website. This event is for practising GMC registered GPs and Healthcare professionals only.

The GP Education Series is a free programme of learning tools providing advice on the early diagnosis and management of the post-treatment complications of cancer, giving clear guidance on when to make a referral. We take a symptom-led approach in all our materials to ensure they mirror your day-to-day practice.

For more information, contact the Royal Marsden Events Manager, Christine Taylor, at gpeducation@rmh.nhs.uk.

Updated GP Education Day Programme



UPDATED GP
Education Day Prog

TCST: COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE UPCOMING EVENTS (FAO PRIMARY CARE NURSES AND AHPS)

FOR INFORMATION

Developing Quality Improvement approaches to improve patient outcomes across cancer services in London

18 October 2023, 08:50 – 13:00 (face-to-face event)

- The next Cancer Community of Practice event will be hosted at the CLCH Academy in Central London.

- Designed specifically for general practice nurses, community nurses and Allied Health Professionals, the event will host guest speakers and community members talking about their own QI projects and the positive impacts on patients living with and after cancer.

For more information: contact Sandra Dyer: Sandra.dyer1@nhs.net or register on Eventbrite: [Cancer community of practice Tickets, Wed 18 Oct 2023 at 08:45 | Eventbrite](#)

Barriers to cancer screening for LGBTQI+ Communities

15 November 2023, 12.30 – 14:00 (virtual event)

- Discussing the barriers for LGBTQI+ communities in accessing cancer screening and the research in this area. We will also talk about how this can work well in practice and provide some examples.

Speaker: Stewart O'Callaghan, Founder and Chief Exec. of Live through This .

Register on Eventbrite: [Supporting cancer screening in LGBTQI+ communities Tickets, Wed 15 Nov 2023 at 12:30 | Eventbrite](#)

WEST LONDON PRIMARY CARE EDUCATION FREE OPPORTUNITIES

Educational Event	Targeted Audience	Training Dates	How to register / access
<p>Primary Care Cancer Education Programme (across 2 years)</p> <p>Programme to support:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GP Practices and PCN teams in identifying early signs of cancer. • Working as a team to support people living with cancer, meet PCN DES and QOF QI requirements. <p>Delivered by Red Whale</p>	<p>This course is open to the following PCN staff members:</p> <p>GPs, PAs, Advanced Nurse Practitioners, Practice Nurses, PCN Pharmacists, PCN Paramedics, PCN First Contact, Physiotherapists, PCN Social Prescribers</p> <p>Any other role supporting patients with long term conditions</p>	<p>On Demand Training available to access!</p>	<p>www.gp-update.co.uk/RMP2</p> <p>enter discount code PCCEP21RMP</p>

CANCER WEBINAR PROGRAMME - [West London Primary Care Webinars - YouTube](#)

Date	Time	Topic	Host (s)	Video recording / joining link
12th August 2021	12:30 – 1:30	Urology <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overview of Urological Cancer & the Pandemic • Prostate Cancer • Bladder Cancer 	<p>Dr Abhijit Gill, NWL Primary Care Cancer Clinical Director for RM Partners.</p> <p>Mr Manit Arya, Consultant Urology, Charing Cross Hospital & Imperial College Healthcare NHS Trust, London</p> <p>Mr Giles Hellowell, Consultant Urological Surgeon, Imperial College Healthcare NHS Trust, London</p>	Watch the session here
17th November 2021	12:00 - 1:15	Lung <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Impact of Covid-19 on referrals for Lung Cancer • Covid-19 vs Lung Cancer • Local RMP Pilots • Improving referral management for Lung Cancers • Case studies • Q&A 	<p>Dr Abhijit Gill, NWL Primary Care Cancer Clinical Director for RM Partners.</p> <p>Dr Susannah Bloch, Acute Respiratory Consultant at Imperial and Lung Clinical Pathway Lead at RM Partners</p>	Watch the session here
14th January 2021	12:00 - 1:15	Haematological Cancers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improving Referral Management for Haematological Cancers • Case Studies 	<p>Dr Abhijit Gill, NWL Primary Care Cancer Clinical Director for RM Partners.</p> <p>Dr Anastasia Chew, Haematology Consultant, Chelsea and Westminster Hospital NHSFT</p> <p>Dr Akila Danga, Consultant Haematologist, Hillingdon Hospitals NHSFT</p>	Watch the session here
9th February 2022	1:00 – 2:00	Lower GI <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improving Referral Management • FIT 	<p>Dr Bushra Khawaja, GP Cancer Lead – Hillingdon</p> <p>Dr Alistair Myers, Consultant Colorectal Surgeon Specialty Lead for General Surgery and Urology,</p>	Watch the session here

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Case Studies • Support available and resources for Primary Care 	Hillingdon and Mount Vernon Hospitals, Chair of Colorectal Cancer Working Group, RM Partners	
3rd March 2022	1:00 – 2:15	<p>PCN DES and National Screening programmes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PCN DES for Early Cancer Diagnosis • PCN Requirements • Hints and Tips to support delivery • Screening programmes • Current screening uptake improvement interventions 	<p>Dr Abhijit Gill, NWL Primary Care Cancer Clinical Director for RM Partners</p> <p>Dr Baldeep Syan, GP Cancer Lead – Hammersmith and Fulham</p>	Watch the session here
5th April 2022	1.00 – 2.00	<p>Personalised Cancer Care</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Holistic Needs Assessments • Treatment Summaries • ‘What Matters to you?’ 	<p>Dr Abhijit Gill, NWL Primary Care Cancer Clinical Director for RM Partners</p> <p>Katherine Malhotra, Personalised Care Clinical Lead for RM Partners</p> <p>Janice Minter, Lead Cancer Nurse Chair for RM Partners.</p>	Watch the session here
17th May 2022	1:00 – 2:00	<p>Rapid Diagnostic Centres (RDCs)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update on RDCs available in NWL and improving access to RDCs • Case studies to support best practice 	<p>Dr Abhijit Gill, NWL Primary Care Cancer Clinical Director for RM Partners</p> <p>Dr Baldeep Syan, GP Cancer Lead – Hammersmith and Fulham</p>	Watch the session here
28th June 2022	1:00 – 2:00	<p>Gynaecology</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improving Referral Management • Case Studies 	John Butler, Consultant Gynaecological Oncology Surgeon, Chair of Gynaecology Cancer Working Group, RM Partners	Watch the session here

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support available and resources for Primary Care 	Dr Lyndsey Williams, GP Cancer Lead for Brent and Ealing	
14th July 2022	1:00 - 2:00	<p>Cancer Hot Topics Prostate Cancer: .Approach to take in delivering this aspect of the DES and what support is available to assist you.</p> <p><u>Use of FIT for suspected colorectal cancer:</u> Clarification of when FIT should be dispensed, the referral pathway and how practices and PCNs can track how patients FIT results are received and entered into patient notes.</p>	<p>Dr Abhijit Gill, NWL Primary Care Cancer Clinical Director for RM Partners</p> <p>Dr Maria Wallace, GP Cancer Lead for Wandsworth.</p> <p>Hasan Qazi, Consultant Urologist at St George's University Hospital, Chair of Urology Cancer Working Group, RM Partners</p>	Watch the session here .
14th September 2022	1 – 2pm	<p>Breast Cancer</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improving Referral Management Case Studies Support available and resources for Primary Care 	<p>Nicky Roche, Consultant Breast Surgeon, Royal Marsden Hospital, Chair of the Breast Cancer Working Group</p> <p>Jason Lee, Consultant Breast and Reconstructive (Oncoplastic) Surgeon, Clinical Lead for the Breast Service at London North West University Healthcare NHS Trust</p>	Watch the session here .
26th October 2022	12 -2pm	<p>The Good Smear Taker – supporting nervous and anxious patients</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understanding the anxieties that patients 	<p>Gill Burgess, Lead Nurse for the Croydon cervical screening clinics for nervous and anxious women</p> <p>Marianne Wood, Colposcopist and Hysteroscopist at St Georges</p>	Watch the session here .

		<p>have around HPV, the screening process and how to respond to these.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Top tips and communication skills in handling and managing nervous patients in the treatment room. • Develop a greater understanding on the Colposcopy process to support conversations with patients. 		
Wednesday 20th September 2023	1 - 2pm	<p>West London Cancer Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An update to changes to 2ww/FDS and PCN DES • Background to cancer detection via primary care and key data sources • An overview of primary care cancer detection programme and including next steps • Information on Rapid diagnostic centres (RDCs) and NG12 criteria 	Dr Thomas Round (Research Clinical fellow for RM Partners) and Dr Lucy Sneddon (SWL Primary Care Clinical Lead)	Watch the session here

		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Information on resources and education opportunities		
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