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Multi-Cancer Blood Test Programme 'piloting a new way for the NHS to find cancer early'

February 2024

*Please note this is a preliminary communications pack and provides the latest information available at present. All time scales, referral predications and data included may be subject to change and will need confirmation from the National team, following the evaluation of results from the current NHS-Galleri trial that is being undertaken. Results are due to be released in April 2024.

Multi-Cancer Blood Test (MCBT) Programme:



The NHS is conducting a large-scale in-service evaluation of a multi-cancer early detection blood test (the Galleri test). The Multi-Cancer Blood Test programme (previously known as the Galleri pilot) will offer up to 1 million multi-cancer early detection tests to asymptomatic people in select areas of England from the summer of 2024 for two years, providing early data from the NHS-Galleri trial are successful

RM Partners, the Cancer Alliance for South West and North West London, is supporting the national pilot of the NHS multi-cancer blood test programme. Multi cancer early detection tests can detect cancer before symptoms appear. The aim of the pilot is to establish whether screening with the Galleri test reduces the incidence of late-stage cancer when used in a asymptomatic population in combination with existing NHS cancer screening programmes

Tumours shed substances into the blood, such as tumour cells, proteins and tumour DNA (known as cell-free DNA). If a cancer signal is found, the results can predict the tissue type or organ associated with the cancer signal. However, the signal does not mean that a person has cancer, it means that they may have cancer, and will need to have some follow-up diagnostic tests

The pilot will invite people without a known cancer diagnosis. From a simple blood sample, the MCBT looks at the pattern of methylation on cell free DNA to see if any of it may have come from cancer cells. Research has shown that Galleri test can detect more than 50 types of cancer.

Invitations and appointments will be coordinated by the National Operations Service (NOS). They will be responsible for dealing with all queries and communicating results to all participants. If a participant has a cancer signal detected, the NOS will refer to the Non-site-specific Rapid Diagnostic Cancer Clinic (NSS RDCC) at an acute trust via a 2WW pathway for further investigations

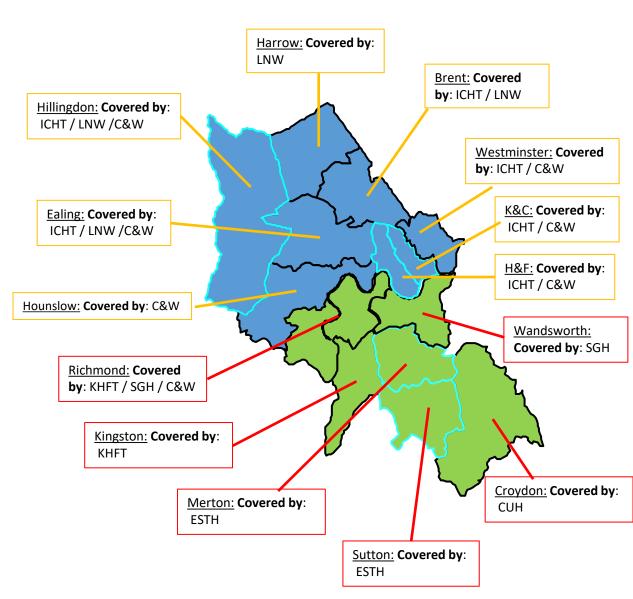
Only patients that receive a letter will be eligible for the test. Participants eligible for the trial must be aged 50 to 77, not have been diagnosed or treated for cancer in the last 3 years and registered with a GP within a participating cancer alliance. Current expectations are that the MCBT programme will start in July 2024 and run until June 2026 across NWL and SWL

Draft Planned Rollout by Borough and NSS RDC coverage:



Borough	Appointments per week	Anticipated Go Live	Anticipated End Date	Duration (weeks)	Expected Positive patients per week	Total Expected Positive patients per borough
Kensington & Chelsea & part Westminster	216	Jul-24	Mar-25	38	3	115
Hammersmith & Fulham	132	Jul-24	Dec-24	24	2	44
Hillingdon	225	Jul-24	Apr-25	38	3	117
Sutton	250	Jul-24	Dec-24	22	4	91
Merton	220	Jul-24	Apr-25	35	2	79
Brent	180	Jan-25	Dec-25	50	3	126
Harrow	150	Jan-25	Dec-25	50	2	105
Kingston	195	Jan-25	Jun-25	25	3	69
Ealing	186	Apr-25	Apr-26	51	3	133
Croydon	225	Apr-25	Apr-26	51	3	161
Hounslow	150	Jun-25	May-26	49	2	103
Wandsworth	144	Jul-25	Jun-26	47	2	99
Westminster	132	Sep-25	Jun-26	38	2	70
Richmond	252	Jan-26	Jun-26	25	4	88
Total					37	1399

^{*}All time scales, referral predications and data outlined may be subject to change and will need confirmation from the National team, following the evaluation of results from the current NHS-Galleri trial that is being undertaken. Results are due to be released in April 2024



MCBT Impact on GPs and mitigations:





Calls to GP surgeries related to the Multi-Cancer Blood Test

- NHSE will produce resources to ensure Primary Care are informed and can share information easily about the test
- All queries should be redirected to the National Operation Service (NOS) (Number TBC)
- Only participants invited can attend for the MCBT
- The NOS team will inform the patients of the result



Management of participants with a cancer signal detected (CSD)

- Result of test is sent to the GP in SNOMED code and letter if a cancer signal is detected this is for information only; there is no further action for primary care to take
- NOS team will call participant and inform them that a cancer signal has been detected
- NOS team will complete the referral to the local Non-Site-Specific Symptoms Rapid Diagnostic Centre via ERS on a 2WW pathway with the MCBT results attached, for further investigations



Psychological support

- Psycho-social support is being planned and coordinated nationally
- MCBT CSD patients referred to RDC will receive support from a specialist CNS
- · Those diagnosed with cancer will be supported by the cancer team at their local hospital
- The trial has anecdotally reported a limited number of people with psychological distress, data to be published



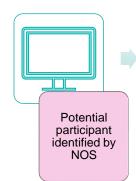
Participants with false cancer signal detected (CSD)

- Approximately 60% of patients with a CSD test will not have cancer
- At a borough level, this ranges from 26-96 patients over the total duration of clinic delivery
- Serious / urgent non cancer findings will be managed in secondary care
- Previous studies indicate a very small number of non-cancer routine findings will need to be managed in primary care
- Not all false cancer signals will have incidental findings so number for each GP practice will be low

Multi-Cancer Blood Test Pathway:



Invitation and booking:





Invitation and

Information

leaflet sent via

post by NOS

Invitee logs on to registration page / contacts call centre

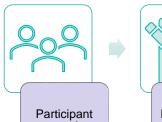


Invitee consents to take part



Participant books appointment

Biosampling:



Participant attends appointment



Phlebotomist confirms identity



Participant blood sample taken



Blood sample transported to America



Blood sample analysed (28 days for result)



NOS team receives result



NOS informs participant by phone if positive and by letter if negative



Patient referred to NSS RDC 2WW pathway via ERS by NOS



NOS send letter to patient GP informed via letter and SNOMED code

Referral:



NOS = National Operation Service
NSS RDC = Non-Site-Specific Rapid Diagnostic Centres



Referral received by NSS RDC



Referral triaged by clinical team and sent to relevant 2WW team



Patient booked to attend appointment by 2WW team



Participant attends appointment / investigations



Results of investigations communicated to patient and GP