

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

29th April 2024

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

1. DES requirements for Early Cancer Diagnosis 2024/25 – **All practice staff**
2. Introducing....new Borough GP Cancer Leads for Harrow and Hounslow
 - A reminder of the support that borough GP Cancer Leads can offer to PCNs – **All practice staff**
3. Temporary pause to cervical and bowel cancer screening SMS reminders – **ACTION FOR PRACTICES: All practice staff**
4. RMP Local Research & Innovation Fund 24/25 - Call for EOI - deadline 10th May 2024 - **All GPs**
5. The British Menopause Society (BMS) guideline for Management of unscheduled bleeding on hormone replacement therapy (HRT) – **All practice staff**
6. Gateway C: Training resources for May– **All Practice staff**
7. West London Primary Care education schedule – **all practice staff**

DES REQUIREMENTS FOR EARLY CANCER DIAGNOSIS 2024/25 FOR INFORMATION – ALL PRACTICE STAFF

Directed Enhanced Service (DES) for Early Cancer Diagnosis (ECD) – 2024/25

The Directed Enhanced Service (DES) requirements for Early Cancer Diagnosis (ECD) for 2024/2025 has been published and is available at: [Network contract directed enhanced service \(england.nhs.uk\)](https://www.networkcontractdirectedenhancedservice.england.nhs.uk).

In summary the requirements are as follows:

Reviewing cancer referral practice in collaboration with partners and making efforts to improve support of early diagnosis

PCNs and Alliances should develop a clear set of actions and milestones to improve referral practice for:

- Colorectal and lung cancer
- One other cancer type determined locally, based on burden of late-stage diagnoses and opportunities for timely and effective referral to support earlier diagnosis

A PCN should also work with Alliances and its GP practices to:

- Refer in line with NG12
- Audit referrals for people received diagnosis of cancer
- Use data sources available (Fingertips) to inform improvement actions
- assess different stages in the pathway for improvement (*referral interval*)

To support and streamline diagnosis and referral practice in primary care, a PCN should:

- promote use of direct access tests where GPs consider an urgent investigation is required but do not think an urgent suspected cancer referral
- promote use of Faecal Immunochemical Testing (FIT) to patients with signs and symptoms of colorectal cancer – address variation in completion of FIT tests in symptomatic patients by deprivation and develop patient education and safety netting approaches
- promote use of Non-Specific Symptom (NSS) pathways for patients with symptoms that could indicate cancer
- promote the use of teledermatology to support faster skin cancer referrals

Working with partners to improve screening uptake, especially regarding breast, bowel and cervical cancer

- **Using data to understand any variance** in screening programme uptake and take corrective action
- **Auditing non responders to the cancer screening programme/s** to analyse why uptake may be low and work with stakeholders to identify and action improvement activities.
- Adopting an **'Every Contact Counts'** approach ensuring screening history is checked at every appointment.
- **Making use of resources available to identify initiatives** e.g.
 - [CRUK Primary Care Good Practice Guide: Cervical Screening](#);
 - [Macmillan Cancer Screening Quality Improvement Toolkit](#).
 - [Healthcare professionals | Breast Cancer Now Resources for health professionals and patients](#);
 - [Help Us Help You cancer screening campaigns](#);
 - [Screening Saves Lives](#)

**INTRODUCING....NEW BOROUGH GP CANCER LEADS FOR
HARROW AND HOUNSLOW**

**A REMINDER OF THE SUPPORT THAT BOROUGH GP CANCER
LEADS CAN OFFER TO PCNS**

FOR INFORMATION– ALL PRACTICE STAFF

Introducing new borough GP Cancer Leads for Harrow and Hounslow

Dr Vaisnavi Siritharan and Dr Lucy Doherty, the borough GP Cancer Leads for Harrow and Hounslow are now on maternity leave.

We have been successful in recruiting GP maternity cover for their roles – Dr Ali Abbas Hasham and Dr Geetalia Sharma.

Dr Ali Abbas Hasham – GP Cancer Lead for Harrow



I studied medicine at Barts & The London, Queen Mary University of London and then did my foundation training in Portsmouth, followed by GP VTS training in Luton. I have particular interests in education, IT and Digital Health Systems, finance and am a keen DIYer. I am currently a partner at Bacon Lane Surgery in Harrow, provide minor surgery services locally and am also a GP Trainer. I look forward to working with all the practices and PCN's in Harrow to achieve better practice and outcomes for our local population.

Email: aliabbas.hasham@nhs.net / nhsnw1.harrowcancerlead@nhs.net

Dr Geetalia Sharma – GP Cancer Lead for Hounslow



My name is Dr Geetali Sharma. I qualified from Barts and The London and completed GPVTS training in West Hertfordshire. Since then, I have been working as a sessional GP between Hounslow and Ealing. Up until recently, I had been working as the GWR PCN Early Cancer Lead in Hounslow.

My interest in cancer care evolved through my personal experience of seeing family, friends, colleagues and patients undergo the emotional, physical and socioeconomic consequences of a cancer diagnosis. I feel passionate about doing whatever I can to facilitate better diagnosis, awareness, care and support for them, as well as improving understanding of local resource availability amongst my colleagues.

Email: geetali.sharma@nhs.net

*A reminder of the support
that borough GP cancer
leads can offer to PCNs*

- Review and interpret your cancer data – including cancer screening data.

- Identify interventions tailored to the needs of your PCN population, help identify where there may be specific health inequalities and support action planning.
- Provide updates, education and best practice resources and share learning from across West London.
- Provide **QI support** and **SEA support** – Facilitation of discussions on late stage diagnoses or emergency presentations.
- **Provide guidance on Early Cancer Diagnosis PCN DES requirements**



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TEMPORARY PAUSE TO CERVICAL AND BOWEL CANCER SCREENING SMS REMINDERS – ALL PRACTICE STAFF

FOR INFORMATION AND ACTION – ALL PRACTICE STAFF

- iPLATO currently send bowel and cervical cancer screening SMS reminders across London. The iPLATO: NHS London contract comes to an end on 31 March 2024 which will result in a temporary pause to the issue of text messages until new arrangements are in place.
- We hope to resume the service in summer 2024 and will contact you with more detail in due course.

There are email / text templates for all cancer screening programmes available on S1 and EMIS, to support practices in proactively contact patients who are:

- Entering into the bowel screening programme
- Are non responders
- Who are exiting the screening programme (and due to receive a final test kit)

These are available:

EMIS: F12 > NWL F12 Template Launcher > Cancer > Cancer Screening
SystemOne: Auto Consultation > Cancer and Palliative > Cancer Screening

Primary Care Actions

- Use messaging included in the communications toolkit (covered above) to raise awareness in eligible patient cohorts that have not yet responded to screening invite (non responders) / utilise email / SMS templates available on S1 and EMIS




RMP LOCAL RESEARCH & INNOVATION FUND 24/25 - CALL FOR EOI - DEADLINE 10TH MAY 2024

FOR INFORMATION – ALL GPs

- We are pleased to announce the launch of **the RM Partners Local Research and Innovation Fund for 2024/2025** and invite EOIs to be submitted. Due to the success of the first Open Call in 2023/2024 RM Partners will be offering another funding opportunity for research and innovation projects in 2024/2025.
- The aim of the RMP Local Research & Innovation fund is to provide cancer researchers and clinicians in West London the opportunity to deliver significant projects that support the goals of the NHS Long-Term Plan. Cancer Alliance research and innovation includes evidence-generating clinical trials, or real- world implementation of innovations, where the scale of the Alliance population and clinical engagement and partnership drives rapid adoption and spread.
- Funding will be awarded to projects that support the research or adoption of late-stage innovations that are ready for implementing within the NHS setting to improve earlier diagnosis and detection of cancer, reduce treatment variation and improve patient outcomes. This can include pragmatic approaches to the identification, stratification, and referral of early-stage symptomatic patients, through to innovative research to identify the earliest possible intervention of cancer detection in an asymptomatic population.
- Examples of relevant areas of research may include, but not limited:
 - Integration of novel genomics.
 - New models of care to identify, stratify and monitor those at risk.
 - Tumour types continuing to present as late stage.
 - Digital health technology.
 - Medical devices.
 - Behavioural interventions.
 - Addressing workforce challenges (including pathology, radiology, radiotherapy).
- Attached is the EOI template, guidance and FAQs for further information, including eligibility and timelines. Please circulate to any interested colleagues across your network or organisation.
- There will be two drop-in sessions hosted by RM Partners to discuss any questions about the EOI Template or the planned selection process.
- Please use the link below to join if required

Thursday 2 May, 12:30-13:30 [LINK](#)

- Please inform us via RMPartners.Research@nhs.net if you are planning to submit an expression of interest.
- The deadline for submission via email using the EOI template attached, is **COP Friday 10 May**.

RMP Research and Innovation Guidance	 RMP Research & Innovation GUIDAN
RMP Research and Innovation FAQ - 2024	 RMP Research & Innovation FAQ - 20
RMP Research and Innovation EOI template	 RMP Research & Innovation EOI TEM

THE BRITISH MENOPAUSE SOCIETY (BMS) GUIDELINE FOR MANAGEMENT OF UNSCHEDULED BLEEDING ON HORMONE REPLACEMENT THERAPY (HRT)

FOR INFORMATION – **ALL PRACTICE STAFF**

- The BMS guideline for the management of unscheduled bleeding on HRT has been released and is available via <https://thebms.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2024/04/01-BMS-GUIDELINE-Management-of-unscheduled-bleeding-HRT-APRIL2024-D.pdf>
- Online training and resources will be available following the formal launch of the guidance and we will circulate further information as it becomes available.

GATEWAY C – TRAINING RESOURCES FOR MAY

FOR INFORMATION – **ALL PRACTICE STAFF**

- This May, Gateway C are highlighting resources to support the messaging associated with Skin Cancer Awareness Month and World Ovarian Cancer Day (8th May).

- Their resources are aimed to ensure clinician confidence in identifying, referring and supporting patients with symptoms of suspected cancer. Free CPD available.

- Access the courses below:
 - [Skin Cancer - GatewayC](#)
 - [Ovarian Cancer - GatewayC](#)
 - [GPs talk cancer - Ovarian Cancer - GatewayC](#)

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 / IIF 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, Advanced Clinical 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 until January 2025</p>	<p>www.gp-update.co.uk/RMP2</p> <p>enter discount code PCCEP21RMP</p>
<p>Cancer Screening courses</p> <p>Gateway C have released Screening modules cover the breast, cervical, and bowel cancer screening programmes.</p> <p>These courses are FREE and worth 1 CPD point.</p> <p>These courses are designed to support primary care in implementing national screening programmes.</p>	<p>All relevant primary care staff involved with screening programmes.</p>	<p>On Demand training.</p>	<p>Our Courses - GatewayC - Register for free to login and enrol</p>

<p>C have made available the following resources</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Skin Cancer ○ Ovarian Cancer 			
<p>Early Cancer diagnosis training modules – South East London Cancer Alliance (SELCA)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SEL Cancer Alliance has launched an early cancer diagnosis resource for primary care. • The online resource will comprise of bitesize modules, each focussing on a specific cancer or group of cancers, and can be completed within 10 minutes. • The following modules are now available: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Head and Neck cancer • Pancreatic training module. • Lung Cancer training module. • Myeloma training module. • Oral Cancer • Oesophageal cancer • Brain Cancer 	<p>Primary care clinical staff - GPs, PAs, Advanced Nurse Practitioners, Advanced Clinical Practitioners, Practice Nurses, PCN Pharmacists, PCN Paramedics</p>	<p>On Demand training.</p>	<p>Head and Neck cancer Pancreatic training module. Lung Cancer training module. Myeloma training module. Oral cancer Oesophageal Cancer Brain Cancer</p>

Telephone triage training supports assessment of cancer patients	All clinicians	Free on demand training	UKONS Telephone Triage training programme page
Cancer Conversations: Cancer in an Ageing Population Gateway C	All GPs	Free on demand	Cancer in an Ageing Population - GatewayC

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 	Dr Abhijit Gill, NWL Primary Care Cancer Clinical Director for RM Partners. Mr Manit Arya, Consultant Urology, Charing Cross Hospital & Imperial College Healthcare NHS Trust, London Mr Giles Hellowell, Consultant Urological Surgeon, Imperial College Healthcare NHS Trust, London	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 	Dr Abhijit Gill, NWL Primary Care Cancer Clinical Director for RM Partners. Dr Susannah Bloch, Acute Respiratory Consultant at Imperial and Lung Clinical Pathway Lead at RM Partners	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 	Dr Abhijit Gill, NWL Primary Care Cancer Clinical Director for RM Partners. Dr Anastasia Chew, Haematology Consultant, Chelsea and Westminster Hospital NHSFT Dr Akila Danga, Consultant Haematologist, Hillingdon Hospitals NHSFT	Watch the session here

9th February 2022	1:00 – 2:00	Lower GI <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improving Referral Management FIT Case Studies Support available and resources for Primary Care 	<p>Dr Bushra Khawaja, GP Cancer Lead – Hillingdon</p> <p>Dr Alistair Myers, Consultant Colorectal Surgeon Specialty Lead for General Surgery and Urology, Hillingdon and Mount Vernon Hospitals, Chair of Colorectal Cancer Working Group, RM Partners</p>	Watch the session here
3rd March 2022	1:00 – 2:15	PCN DES and National Screening programmes <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	Personalised Cancer Care <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	Rapid Diagnostic Centres (RDCs)	<p>Dr Abhijit Gill, NWL Primary Care Cancer Clinical Director for RM Partners</p>	Watch the session here

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Update on RDCs available in NWL and improving access to RDCs Case studies to support best practice 	Dr Baldeep Syan, GP Cancer Lead – Hammersmith and Fulham	
28th June 2022	1:00 – 2:00	<p>Gynaecology</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improving Referral Management Case Studies Support available and resources for Primary Care 	<p>John Butler, Consultant Gynaecological Oncology Surgeon, Chair of Gynaecology Cancer Working Group, RM Partners</p> <p>Dr Lyndsey Williams, GP Cancer Lead for Brent and Ealing</p>	Watch the session here
14th July 2022	1:00 - 2:00	<p>Cancer Hot Topics</p> <p><u>Prostate Cancer:</u> .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.

<p>14th September 2022</p>	<p>1 – 2pm</p>	<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>	<p>Watch the session here.</p>
<p>26th October 2022</p>	<p>12 -2pm</p>	<p>The Good Smear Taker – supporting nervous and anxious patients</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understanding the anxieties that patients have around HPV, the screening process and how to respond to these. • 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. 	<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>	<p>Watch the session here.</p>

<p>Wednesday 20th September 2023</p>	<p>1 - 2pm</p>	<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 • Information on resources and education opportunities 	<p>Dr Thomas Round (Research Clinical fellow for RM Partners) and Dr Lucy Sneddon (SWL Primary Care Clinical Lead)</p>	<p>Watch the session here</p>
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