

# NEL Cancer Alliance Primary Care Update

## 31 July 2022

### 1 Support for the PCN DES

The North East London Cancer Alliance have been working on a practical guide to support primary care with the delivery of the PCN DES for cancer. The early cancer diagnosis service requirements have been streamlined and refocussed for this year in response to clinicians' feedback. The proposed new requirements are simpler and clearer, while also focusing PCNs on national diagnosis priorities arising from evidence around lower than expected referral rates for prostate cancer.

The support guide is a working document which has been developed with the latest local and national information and transformation project resources available. Resources are constantly being developed and we will inform you of these changes and update the guide accordingly.

Attached is a pdf of the current version, which has been approved by our GP cancer leads.

Further advice on the PCN DES can be accessed via the [Cancer Research UK webpages](#) and the NHSE guidance is [here](#).

### 2 PCN Cancer Facilitator

The PCN cancer facilitator is available to support PCNs to deliver the requirements of early diagnosis PCN DES 2022/23. The support includes:

- Facilitate quality improvement, including reflection on comparative cancer data, referrals and audits and learning event analysis.
- Support action planning and use of ongoing quality improvement methodologies.
- Facilitate improvement in cancer screening, prevention and early diagnosis.
- Work with the whole team as needed – including GPs, nurses, clinical pharmacists, physician associates, other clinicians and non-clinical staff.
- Provide training to staff on cancer screening and cancer related processes such as safety netting.
- Work with PCNs to support a reduction in health inequalities.

Your PCN cancer facilitator for north east London is Lubna Patel and can be contacted via email at [Lubna.patel6@nhs.net](mailto:Lubna.patel6@nhs.net)

### 3 The Targeted Lung Health Check programme goes live in Barking & Dagenham

As a reminder, Targeted Lung Health Check (TLHC) is a free MOT of the lungs for people aged between 55-74, who are current smokers or who have ever smoked, and is by invite only.

We are piloting this in north east London in Barking & Dagenham and Tower Hamlets (based on smoking data). **We have now gone live in Barking & Dagenham and have started scanning our first patients.** We are planning to provisionally go live in Tower Hamlets later this year and are looking at an additional borough for next year.

#### Scanner locations

We are pleased to confirm the location of the scanners as follows:

Barking and Dagenham: Barking Sporthouse and Gym, Mayesbrook Park, Lodge Ave, Dagenham, RM8 2JR

Tower Hamlets: Mile End Park Leisure Centre and Stadium, 190 Burdett Rd, London E3 4HL

#### Data Sharing Agreements

GPs in Barking and Dagenham and Tower Hamlets have been sent separately more detailed communications on the process, including Data Sharing Agreements.

Many thanks to GPs in Barking and Dagenham and Tower Hamlets who have signed up already. If you haven't done so yet, **please sign up to the data sharing agreement, all documents are ready for you to sign in the Data Controller Console (DCC). This is so we can start inviting patients.** If you require any further support with signing up and using the DCC please visit <https://app.datacontroller.org.uk/learning> and <https://app.datacontroller.org.uk/learning/downloadDocument?documentId=26aa0fbd-e4f8-48ef-bfca-ced47791d5d7>

#### More information and contact details

To contact the InHealth Support Desk email for GP ISA queries, please email: [supportdesk@health-intelligence.com](mailto:supportdesk@health-intelligence.com)

For further information, email the Targeted Lung Health Check Team at [nelondon.lungcheck@nhs.net](mailto:nelondon.lungcheck@nhs.net) or visit our [web pages](#).

## 4 Community Links: Population Awareness Programme across NEL (excluding City and Hackney)

To improve public awareness of the signs and symptoms of cancer, North East London CCG has commissioned Community Links to work with local community groups across our boroughs.

Community Links are delivering local events and sessions tailored to increase knowledge of signs and symptoms of cancer as well as the national screening programmes for bowel, breast and cervical cancers.

As a result, there may be an increase in cancer and cancer screening related queries at GP practices.

For any queries or more information about this project, please contact Fisayo [adefisayo.odeniyi@nhs.net](mailto:adefisayo.odeniyi@nhs.net)

These are the groups of patients they are targeting:

B&D	Over 60s Eastern European communities African and Afro-Caribbean communities South Asian communities
Redbridge	Over 60s Eastern European communities South Asian communities
Havering	Over 60s Eastern European communities African and Afro-Caribbean communities
Newham	Over 60s Eastern European communities African and Afro-Caribbean communities South Asian communities
Tower Hamlets	Over 60s Eastern European communities African and Afro-Caribbean communities South Asian communities
Waltham Forest	Over 60s Eastern European communities African and Afro-Caribbean communities

## 5 Cervical Health Training webinar with Jo's Cervical Cancer Trust

We are planning a further training webinar in a few weeks' time. However, we had a very high drop-out rate from the last session, and we are reconsidering our approach going forward.

If you sign up for a session and can no longer attend, please can you let us know so that the spaces can be offered to other colleagues.

## 6 CPES results

NHSE/I have published the 2021 results of the Cancer Patient Experience Survey.

Patient experience of care is incredibly important to us and it's a testament to the hard-working NHS staff that cancer patients have given the highest rating on record for overall experience at 8.92 out of 10.

To view the full set of results please visit [www.ncpes.co.uk/current-results/](http://www.ncpes.co.uk/current-results/)

Some highlights from NEL are:

- 42% response rate for NEL, 55% Nationally.
- NEL response rate highest among White British population and within 65-74 age group.
- Very low response rate from non-binary
- Fairly even split between male and female, however, female group reporting lower scores when compared with males
- Majority of respondents used paper surveys
- Primary care question responses in NEL:
  - 42% of patients received the right amount of support from their GP practice during treatment
  - 73% reported speaking to primary care professional once or twice before diagnosis
  - 60% of patients said referral for diagnosis was explained in a way they understood
  - 20% reported having had a cancer care review
- Patient's average rating of care 8.7 for NEL for both 2019 and 2021.
- Alliance NCPES working group to still decide next area of focus for 22/23.
- We always welcome new members to this group. If any primary care staff would like to join, please contact Emma Nicholls – [emma.nicholls6@nhs.net](mailto:emma.nicholls6@nhs.net)

## 7 North East London continues to lead the way in cancer standards performance

The latest national data on cancer standards from NHS England and Improvement shows that North East London is the top performing alliance in the country in 6 out of 10 cancer waits standards, building on our positive results from earlier this year.

The data is from April 2022 and shows cancer waiting times performance by region, cancer alliance and Integrated Care System (ICS). North East London came top in the following cancer standards:

- **2ww 1<sup>st</sup> seen standard:** Patients are seen within two weeks from a referral from their GP for both **urgent cancer and breast symptomatic** (where there are symptoms, but breast cancer is not suspected).
- **Faster Diagnosis Standard:** The performance standard to ensure patients who are referred for suspected cancer have a timely diagnosis. The target is that 75% of patients will be diagnosed or have cancer ruled out within 28 days of being referred urgently by their GP for suspected cancer.
- **31 day treatment standards for 1<sup>st</sup> treatment, subsequent surgery and subsequent radiotherapy:** Patients, regardless of how they came to be diagnosed with cancer, should receive their treatment within a month of a deciding to treat their cancer.

Femi Odewale, Managing Director of the North East London Cancer Alliance, says: “These results show that we are making a big difference to the health and wellbeing of our local residents through helping to spot cancer sooner and providing quicker access to treatment.

“I’m incredibly proud of what our cancer teams have achieved, and I want to personally thank our staff for all their hard work.”

## 8 Research project on cancer care reviews

We have been contacted by Dipesh from the University of Birmingham who is hoping to chat to any GPs or practice nurses who carry out cancer care reviews in clinical practice.

He is running a research project, involving one-to-one interviews for no more than 1 hour on Zoom, to find out what GP practice staff think about cancer care reviews. It’s part of his Masters’ research at the University of Birmingham to improve cancer care.

Please do email him if you are interested in taking part in research to improve cancer care nationally: [dpg138@student.bham.ac.uk](mailto:dpg138@student.bham.ac.uk)

## 9 For more information

Web: <https://www.eastlondonhcp.nhs.uk/aboutus/north-east-london-cancer-alliance.htm>

Twitter: @CancerNel

Facebook: @NelCancerAlliance

Instagram: @CancerNEL

For any communications queries, please email [p.thomas6@nhs.net](mailto:p.thomas6@nhs.net)