

NEL Cancer Alliance Primary Care Update February 2024

In this update:

- 1 PCN DES support guide: a reminder
- 2 PCN cancer facilitators
- 3 Breast Screening in SMI ONEL (BHR only)
- 4 Personalised Stratified Follow Up for Cancer Patients (PSFU)/ Remote Monitoring System Update – Barts Health
- 5 Targeted Lung Health Check Programme Update
- 6 FIT in secondary care
- 7 Urgent Suspected Cancer Forms: an important reminder
- 8 New prostate cancer videos aimed at the black community
- 9 NHS Jewish BRCA Testing Programme Information for Health Care Professionals
- 10 Training modules to support urgent suspected cancer referrals
- 11 GatewayC
- 12 Prehab videos
- 13 For more information

1 PCN DES support guide: a reminder

In case you missed it last month, the latest updates to the PCN DES support guide are available here: <https://www.nelcanceralliance.nhs.uk/healthcare-professionals/primary-care/pcn-des>

Key updates are highlighted in yellow in the guide and include:

1. NEW – SELCA Education Resource for USC referral – Page 3 (see attached)
2. NEW – Breast Screening resources for LD and Carers – Page 4
3. UPDATE – Barts Health NHS Trust and NEL ICB are offering an online course on skin cancer diagnosis for salaried GPs. There are still 23 spaces available for GPs across NEL – Page 7

2 PCN cancer facilitators

As a reminder, our PCN cancer facilitators are available to support PCNs to deliver the requirements of early diagnosis PCN DES. We have three PCN facilitators for north east London:

Barking and Dagenham, Havering and Redbridge: Naeema Akther – Naeema.akther@nhs.net

City & Hackney and Newham: Jessica Lewsey – jessica.lewsey@nhs.net

Tower Hamlets and Waltham Forest: Lubna Patel – lubna.patel6@nhs.net

3 Breast Screening in SMI ONEL (BHR only)

A breast screening project to support people with a Severe Mental Illness will be going live from 1 April 2024, with a staggered start date for each PCN. Information on this will be included in the updated service specification, which the PCNs can expect to receive with their contracts within the next 3-4 weeks.

Ahead of the go live, PCNs will be required to align their SMI registers with their relevant borough NELFT mental health team register. The NELFT registers will be shared via the cancer alliance, with more guidance on this to follow.

4 Personalised Stratified Follow Up for Cancer Patients (PSFU)/ Remote Monitoring System Update – Barts Health

Acute Trusts have been working to implement Stratified Follow Up for Cancer patients. Barts Health has made significant progress with the Breast Open Access service and continues to move forward now with more remote follow up for both Colorectal and Prostate follow up patients – eligible patients are increasingly seen in Nurse Led telephone follow up clinics.

NHS England now requires Trusts to implement digital monitoring of this cohort of patients, to ensure increased safety netting. As part of that process Barts Health, in line with other NEL Trusts, have installed a bolt on to the Somerset Cancer Registry – RMS (Remote Monitoring System).

This will allow an improved ability to track eligible patients, post treatment, to ensure all surveillance tests are conducted and reviewed in a timely fashion, with less hospital appointments just for “good news” and rapid access to outpatients and clinical teams as required.

If a patient is referred to the Barts Health Remote Monitoring Service, a typical pathway would involve an End of Treatment Clinic session with a Clinical Nurse Specialist – at which point a Treatment Summary and end of Treatment Holistic

Needs Assessment conducted. The appointment would be utilised to explain the RMS process to the patient and ensure they are familiar with any symptoms the clinical team want to be informed of and the expected follow up protocol.

The patient will then receive a “welcome” letter; followed by a “reminder” letter for the first surveillance test – shortly followed by a “results” letter. This will repeat until the programme of follow up is complete and the patient is discharged to primary care – which is the final letter. GPs will be copied into all correspondence, with a separate dedicated letter to the GP at the point of discharge.

At any point during the process the patient can be transferred back into regular follow up if required. **Please note there isn't any action required by GPs as patients will remain under secondary care follow-up – until they are discharged.**

Prostate and Colorectal have been live with this pathway now for over one year, with additional tumour groups coming on board during 2024. As such, you may start to see increased RMS related correspondence and we hope this email goes some way to help give context.

If you have any queries or comments, please contact Avril van der Loo (avrilvanderloo@nhs.net), Barts Health Personalised Cancer Care Lead.

5 Targeted Lung Health Check Programme Update

Many thanks for your continued support for our Targeted Lung Health Check Programme. We continue to have one of the highest uptakes in the country.

As of 31 January 2024, we have so far invited 34,783 patients, completed 18,323 lung health checks and undertaken 7,493 scans!

It is currently running in Barking & Dagenham, Tower hamlets and Newham. The programme offers life-saving scans to residents aged between 55 and 74, and who have ever smoked.

As previously communicated, Newham was our next borough based on a combination of smoking data, current scanner location and IT integration already being in place.

SNOMED Codes

As a reminder, the new TLHC SNOMED codes have now been released by EMIS, for local practices to access. EMIS has published the knowledge base article about this, which EMIS users can access using the [link](#).

If you need to refer to this article in any of your materials or communications, the Reference ID for the article is [KB001441](#) and it can be accessed directly by EMIS users using the link above.

For more information

[Download](#) a slide pack for healthcare professionals

[Visit](#) our website

[Access](#) patient communications materials

6 FIT in secondary care

As a reminder, the Transforming Cancer Services Team in London have launched a project to promote the use of FIT in secondary care, to reduce time to diagnosis for investigation of high-risk patients with lower GI red flag symptoms.

This will use FIT to:

- identify high risk symptomatic patients in urgent care settings - to reduce time to diagnosis / other investigation.
- identify low risk symptomatic patients - to determine need for endoscopy / other investigation.

Posters will be displayed in urgent care settings to advise patients. **We do not expect the project to generate any additional work for GPs.** There will be a navigator who will follow up on all indeterminate tests.

For more information about FIT in secondary care, watch [NHS England's video](#).

If you have any questions about the project, please email fit.bhrut@nhs.net or phone 01708 435 036. You can also find out more on the [TCST webpage](#).

Read more here: <https://www.nelcanceralliance.nhs.uk/news/finding-bowel-cancer-earlier-when-it-easier-treat>

7 Urgent Suspected Cancer Forms: an important reminder

Please can all practices make sure they are using the new referral forms and ensure that they are fully complete before sending.

Some practices are still using the old forms (we are aware there has been an issue in removing the old forms from EMIS). Also, some forms are being sent that incomplete and it means we are sometimes missing crucial information.

More information is on our [webpage](#).

8 New prostate cancer videos aimed at the black community

We have recently launched some new prostate cancer awareness videos aimed at the black community. These can be viewed from the links below. Please share these through your networks and channels.

<https://youtu.be/bp-KG7OWdX0>

<https://youtu.be/-y7M9ltCdcU>

<https://youtu.be/KToupbfprUI>

9 NHS Jewish BRCA Testing Programme Information for Health Care Professionals

On 30 January 2023, NHS England launched a three-year programme to offer genetic testing for BRCA mutations to men and women over 18 years old with Jewish ancestry (at least one Jewish grandparent) in England.

If anyone presents to primary care with questions about the programme, they should be given the link to the [information page](https://jewishbrca.org/) (<https://jewishbrca.org/>) where they can register for a test, and advised they can call the genetic counselling hotline directly for support: 020 3437 6001 (the hotline is open Monday to Friday, 9:00am to 5:00pm, with extended hours to 7:00pm on Wednesdays).

More information is available to [download from our website](#).

10 Training modules to support urgent suspected cancer referrals

South East London Cancer Alliance recently launched a new education resource to support primary care professionals to identify patients who require an urgent suspected cancer referral. These are available free of charge for GPs in north east London.

The modules can be completed online within 10 minutes. The following modules are now available:

- [Head and Neck cancer](#)
- [Pancreatic training module.](#)
- [Lung Cancer training module.](#)
- [Myeloma training module.](#)
- [Oral cancer](#)

Pending modules under construction (Released by summer 2024.)

- Oesophageal cancer
- Brain and Central Nervous System cancer
- Ovarian cancer

11 GatewayC

GatewayC is an excellent free source of cancer resources for GPs and **we recommend all practice staff in north east London sign up.**

Sign up is quick and easy and can be done via this link:

<https://www.gatewayc.org.uk/registration/>

12 Prehab videos

For info for GPs, we have produced a couple of videos which help explain the prehab services in north east London and the benefits for cancer patients. They are available here:

- Prehab film for patients: <https://youtu.be/sQEISRtAiY>
- Prehab film for healthcare professionals: <https://youtu.be/Texsgz29xcg>

13 For more information

Web: www.nelcanceralliance.nhs.uk

Twitter: @CancerNel

Facebook: @NelCancerAlliance

Instagram: @CancerNEL

LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/north-east-london-cancer-alliance/>

YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/@nelcanceralliance>