

NEL Cancer Alliance Primary Care Update July 2021

1 Bowel screening

1.1 The expansion of the home testing (FIT kit) programme

The North East London Screening Centre was successful in obtaining approval to commence age extension to the population of 56 year olds within the following four areas: City and Hackney, Newham, Tower Hamlets and Waltham Forest.

Roll out of age extension commenced on 24 May 2021. We are currently under discussions to implement roll out to the next cohort, 58 year olds, in 2022.

Thank you for your on-going support with the programme so far, and we look forward to working with your practices to roll out age extension across the sector and provide health promotion support where required.

Please see attached the latest letter sent to primary care from NHSEI regarding age extension.

1.2 FIT poster for primary care admin staff

Recently, across London, there have been increasing numbers of Faecal Immunochemical Tests (FIT) getting rejected from labs, due to incorrect labelling of kits, the wrong specimen container being used or incorrect/improper closure of the container.

[The Transforming Cancer Services Team \(TCST\)](#) have created a poster (attached) for GP practice staff to support them in explaining to patients the correct way to complete and return a FIT.

The poster has been designed by the TCST Early Diagnosis team with input and support from professionals within the London cancer community including the Cancer Alliances and Cancer Research UK.

The purpose of the poster is to act as step-by-step guide for staff when speaking to patients required to complete a FIT. We hope that this poster will enable staff to give clear directions to patients so that samples are correctly collected, and labels filled in and returned quickly to the surgery.

Could you please:

- Share this poster with administrative/reception staff in your surgery.
- Display the poster where the FIT Kits are kept or at a location that is visible/accessible when staff are speaking with patients about their kits.
- Remind staff that samples can be kept for up to 10 days (we recommend that in hotter weather they get stored in the fridge) and that they should not be thrown away if they arrive after the last collection before the weekend.

The link to the PDF version of poster, as well as translated versions of the Patient Information Leaflets (PIL) to accompany the FIT Kit can be [found here](#) on the Healthy London Partnership website.

It is also important to note from an inclusion health perspective, people do not require an address to register with a GP. If a patient is homeless or sleeping rough, they can use the GP surgery address. Further information can be [found here](#).

For more information, feedback or if you have any questions regarding the poster, please contact:

Ellian Fairbairn, Strategy Implementation Lead at TCST

- elliann.fairbairn@nhs.net

The TCST team - England.TCSTLondon@nhs.net

1.3 Bowel screening support to increase uptake

Did you know that the NHS Bowel Cancer Screening Programme supports Primary Care, CCGs and local authorities in City & Hackney, Waltham Forest, Newham and Tower Hamlets?

Contact them for support in a range of areas to help increase the uptake of bowel screening.

For further information and support contact our Bowel Screening Health Improvement Specialist:

Leena Khagram. Email: leena.khagram@nhs.net, Phone: 07917 554 352.

View a full list of [bowel screening support services](#) that they provide.

2 Cervical screening

2.1 Primary care sample deficit has been cleared

It's great news that the Primary Care sample deficit across NEL has been cleared compared to 2019 activity and is reporting a surplus of 2,360 samples, according to the latest PHE Screening: GPtoLab Restoration Report.

Well done and a big thank you to all concerned in achieving this.

2.2 Latest resources from the NEL Cancer Alliance

We have launched our [animated cervical screening video](#) for patients, as well as a primary care guide to [increasing the uptake of cervical screening](#). Please have a look at these and send any feedback to p.thomas6@nhs.net

2.3 GPs in Newham and Tower Hamlets report positive responses to HPV self-sampling kits

Since the YouScreen HPV self-sampling study, led by King's College London, was launched in February 2021, GP practices in the London boroughs of Barnet, Camden, Islington, Newham and Tower Hamlets have reported a very positive response from their patients.

Women and people with a cervix in these boroughs, who are overdue their cervical screening by at least six months, can complete the HPV test kit themselves at home.

Miss Alexandra Lawrence, consultant gynaecological oncologist at the Royal London Hospital and co-chair of the YouScreen Study steering group, said:

"YouScreen is a gamechanger. It's been very encouraging to see that when GP practices give patients the opportunity to try a YouScreen kit, they value using it. We hope that when people receive a kit in the post at home they respond to it just as positively."

Further information about YouScreen is available at <https://www.smallc.org.uk/get-involved/get-involved-youscreen/> or visit our North East London Cancer Alliance pages: <https://www.eastlondonhcp.nhs.uk/aboutus/youscreen.htm>

GP practices participating in the pilot can download a full list of [frequently asked questions](#) about YouScreen.

2.4 Diagnosing Cervical Cancer and the Role of Prevention and Screening

Latest GatewayC webinar recording on cervical cancer is available here: <https://courses.gatewayc.org.uk/mod/page/view.php?id=5872>

2.5 New NHS Cervical Screening Management System starting 2021

NHS Digital, commissioned by NHSX, are developing a new NHS Cervical Screening Management System to replace the current call/recall system, which sits on the National Health Application and Infrastructure Services (NHAIS) platform (sometimes called the Exeter system), and which is also accessed by the Open Exeter system.

The new system will be introduced at the end of October 2021, and the legacy system will be decommissioned with minimal impact to users. Precise timings will be confirmed in the coming months.

More information is on their dedicated [webpage](#).

3 Lung cancer awareness

The Roy Castle Foundation has launched a #spotthedifference campaign for lung cancer awareness and this includes a toolkit for primary care, which is available here: <https://roycastle.org/campaigns/spot-the-difference/primary-care-toolkit/>

The NB Medical webinar on lung and Covid which took place last month and received excellent feedback is available to watch on demand, you just need to register. <https://www.nbmedical.com/clinics/hot-topics-clinic-lung-cancer-diagnosis-in-2021-live-webinar-tuesday-15th-june-2021>

4 C the Signs

4.1 C the Signs PCN dashboard

For practices using C the signs, your Primary Care Network's Cancer Performance Data is now available through C the Signs on your Practice Dashboard. This new feature will support practices and PCNs to achieve the requirements outlined in the PCN DES and QOF specification for cancer. There is a video demo of the PCN dashboard, to show you the different functions. <https://spotlight.cthesigns.co.uk/pcn-data-dashboard/>

Training is available on how to use the PCN dashboard and you can book a session via the link below.

<https://calendly.com/cthesignstraining/c-the-signs-pcn-training?month=2021-07>

Alternatively, you can arrange a session by email to training@cthesigns.co.uk.

Attached is further information.

4.2 Pulse Check Survey

We are asking colleagues in Primary Care to complete a mini pulse check survey about C the Signs. Below is the link to the survey, there are 6 questions, and it takes less than a minute to complete.

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/TT3B5SN>

5 Tumour group 62-day data: good news

North East London Cancer Alliance has performed well in **Q4 data for Tumour level 62-day urgent suspected cancer referral to 1st treatment performance**. Key highlights are:

- Top alliance (out of 21) in the country for Breast, Lung, Upper GI and Skin cancers, as well as for all tumour groups combined
- Second alliance (out of 21) in the country for Head and Neck cancers
- Fifth alliance (out of 21) in the country for Lower GI.

6 Under 16 CPES: launch of new survey

We want to hear from children and young people, and their families, about their experiences of cancer services so that we can continue to improve the care and services the NHS delivers.

In a UK first, NHSEI is launching a new survey to specifically learn from the experiences and views of children under the age of 16 in care and treatment for cancer.

The results from the survey will provide the first national-level insight into the experiences of children with cancer and will inform how the NHS delivers cancer services going forward. For more information on the survey visit

www.under16cancerexperiencesurvey.co.uk.

Commissioners, providers and national policymakers will use the results to assess performance both locally and nationally, to help identify priority areas for enhancing children's cancer services

7 Patient feedback from the Mile End Early Diagnosis Centre (Please note that the Mile End Early Diagnosis Centre is not currently for direct referrals from primary care, but the decant from the acute sites should ensure better capacity for direct access across north east London.)

We have been receiving really positive feedback from patients at the [Mile End Early Diagnosis Centre](#) since it opened. Here are the latest results from our ‘How did we do today?’ feedback survey.

	Were the reception staff friendly and helpful?	Were the nursing staff courteous and efficient?	Was the endoscopist reassuring, friendly and efficient	Was the endoscopy unit clean and tidy?	Would you recommend this service to your friends and family?
Yes	64	64	64	64	64
No	0	0	0	0	0

Some comments and feedback from patients

“Very friendly staff. Explained everything so I understood well. They made an unpleasant procedure a pleasant one.”

“The whole procedure was very relaxing specially with the team who is around me during the procedure. It was very quick and not painful at all. I was a bit anxious at first but felt very calm in the endoscopy room mainly because of the team support. Recovered very quickly to go home afterwards. Thank you very much. Team is highly recommended to anyone to go for it, if needed.”

“I want to say thank you to all members of the staff involved in this procedure today. The kindness compassion and professionalism you showed is second to none. “

“The staff were all great. Excellent job.”

8 Recruitment for patient and carer representatives

We are actively seeking more patient and carer representatives to join our Patient Carer Voice in Cancer. This is our group of patient and care representatives who are working with us to make a real difference to people living with cancer in north east London. We are also looking to stand up an U16 Working Group.

If you know anyone who has experience of cancer as a patient or carer in north east London, we would like to hear from you. To qualify, they should have received cancer treatment, or cared for someone with cancer, in north east London in the last five years. More information is on our [Patient Carer Voice in Cancer web page](#).

To find our more or if you have any questions, please email nelondon.pcvc@nhs.net or phone 07341 134 455.

9 Haem 2ww referral webinar recording

Here is the link to the recording of the 'When to make 2ww referrals to Haematology' webinar: <https://youtu.be/X2OG2LQcGsl>

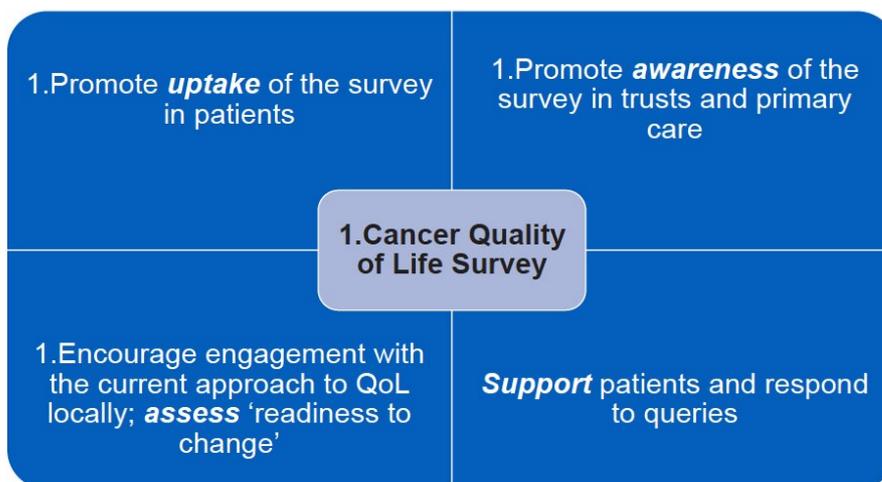
10 Quality of life survey

Another important reminder to help us promote the national Quality of Life (QoL) survey to cancer patients (sent out 18 months post-diagnosis). London still has the lowest QoL response level out of the entire country and **north east London has the lowest score overall**. Our current response rate is 34% against a target of 50%.

Please, watch and forward the following recently published videos to help us spread the word about the QoL tool:

- Why is the survey important? <https://youtu.be/1vbeuYeTgOU>
- What does quality of life mean to you? https://youtu.be/RUISk5H_1jU

What you can do to help



More information is on our North East London Cancer Alliance [webpages](#) or visit www.CancerQoL.england.nhs.uk.

Please email p.thomas6@nhs.net or barbara.kruszynska@nhs.net for discussions around ways to help promote the survey.

11 Cancer resources for primary care and patients

You can find the latest resources for primary care on our dedicated web page:
<https://www.eastlondonhcp.nhs.uk/aboutus/primary-care.htm>

A full list of patient resources is here:

<https://www.eastlondonhcp.nhs.uk/aboutus/patient-information.htm>

The latest additions include:

- cancer screening for people with learning disabilities and autism:
<https://northeastlondonccg.nhs.uk/your-health/learning-disabilities-and-autism/cancer-screening/>
- animated cervical screening video: <https://youtu.be/XMBFvN4ioBE>
- leaflets to support patients who have been referred to hospital with a suspected cancer, available in 11 of the most common languages spoken in London.
- guidance from Bowel Cancer UK on steps to good bowel health
- a video from Homerton University Hospital on how to improve your health and wellbeing after cancer treatment

12 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