

## THAMES VALLEY CANCER ALLIANCE BULLETIN #29 – SEPTEMBER 2021

### ALLIANCE UPDATES

- **PPG Launch event:** A virtual launch of the Thames Valley Cancer Alliance Patient Partnership Group (TVCA PPG) took place on Tuesday 7th September. There were over 55 people in attendance, including our new patient representatives and a number of new stakeholder partners to the Alliance. A copy of the presentation slides have been circulated to all those who attended the launch and a full recording of the meeting can be found on our You Tube account [here](#) for those who were unable to attend. Should you be interested in wanting to become a member of the PPG or to learn more about our patient involvement activities, then please contact Lisa Cox, Patient Engagement Lead via; [l.cox7@nhs.net](mailto:l.cox7@nhs.net) or 07900 715074
- **Jen Graystone, Clinical Director** is hosting a **Clinical Advisory Group (CAG)** Leads meeting on Wednesday 29th September 10:00-11:30, The meeting will be attended by CAG leads and TVCA members. The meeting will provide a general Alliance update, information on the future of research within the Alliance, launch of work plans, update on the TVCA Dashboard and future data collection and information on Patient Partnerships and Workforce. For further information please contact Andrew Mills on [andrew.mills13@nhs.net](mailto:andrew.mills13@nhs.net).
- **New multi cancer blood test study commences across TVCA:** The nation-wide SYMPLIFY study, supported by the National Institute for Health Research, will investigate a new multi-cancer early detection (MCED) test in the NHS, known as Galleri, for patients with non-specific symptoms that may be a result of cancer. The aim of the SYMPLIFY study, which has been facilitated by Thames Valley Cancer Alliance, to open at Buckinghamshire Healthcare NHS Trust, Oxford University Hospitals NHS Trust and Royal Berkshire NHS Foundation Trust, is to demonstrate how the Galleri test could be used to increase cancer detection rates and improve diagnostic pathways. For more information and to stay up to date with this study, please visit our [Treatment and Care webpage](#).
- **Virtual health and Wellbeing workshops:** The **Cancer Rehab team** are hosting a virtual health and wellbeing workshop on “Sleeping Well”. The event is on **Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> September 2021** from **2.00pm-3.00pm** (*see attached for topics being covered*) The session is being held virtually via Microsoft Teams. [Click here to join the meeting](#) just before the session’s start time. Future dates of other HWB sessions are as follows (but may be subject to change);
  - Tuesday 28/09/2021 2-3.30pm Surviving Hormone Therapy, for Prostate Cancer Patients on Hormone Therapy
  - Tuesday 12/10/2021 2-3pm Psychosexual Concerns & Cancer
  - Tuesday 19/10/2021 2-3pm Cancer & Psychology

### OTHER CANCER UPDATES

- **Ardens** recently sent out communications highlighting how the primary care software can be used to **support the requirements of the DES and QOF QI** contractual cancer elements. Please find the update [here](#) and share with any primary care colleagues who may find this information useful.



- PCN's are recruiting new [social prescribing link workers](#), [health and wellbeing coaches](#) and [care coordinators](#), who can help patients get cancer care reviews and provide other support throughout the pathway. The national cancer team would like to hear how your practices are using these new roles to support cancer patients. Please share your views with [england.cancerpolicy@nhs.net](mailto:england.cancerpolicy@nhs.net)
- **Beneficial Changes Network:** The [BCN](#) is now open for a second round of transformation, innovation or improvement submissions from the frontline. The BCN is a collaborative group of health and social care stakeholders and people with lived experience who want to harness and capture the benefits of changes that have taken place through Covid-19 and evaluate these changes, to share the knowledge and embed the learning of local experiences across the entire health and care sector. Submissions for the network can be made [here](#) and are open until **Friday 22nd October**. If you have any queries please contact [england.improvementsupporthubpmo@nhs.net](mailto:england.improvementsupporthubpmo@nhs.net).
- **ICS Implementation Guidance:** NHSE published further ICS implementation guidance last week, including guidance on [clinical and care professional leadership](#). This guidance document reinforces the important role that Cancer Alliances will continue to play in clinical leadership across their geographies stating that: "ICSs should be careful not to lose the depth and breadth of clinical leadership they currently have. They should build on the expertise of existing clinical and care professional networks; for example, Cancer Alliances and networks covering areas like cardiac, renal and respiratory care. This is not to replace existing networks; it is about aligning them within the ICS". The full range of guidance published so far can be found on the [ICS Guidance workspace](#), and you can contact [lisa.james12@nhs.net](mailto:lisa.james12@nhs.net) with any questions.
- **Virtual Consultations:** The South East London Cancer Alliance have launched a [video about making the most of virtual consultations](#) that they have co-produced with patients. It's an excellent resource for any patient having phone/video consultations. They have also published '[How can you make the most of your virtual consultation](#)' Q&As, which can be read online.
- **Specialty guidance for cancer** is on the NICE website on their Covid-19 pages: <https://www.nice.org.uk/covid-19/specialty-guides>

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