

THAMES VALLEY CANCER ALLIANCE BULLETIN #7 – JANUARY 2021

All the latest updates and guidance for cancer across Thames Valley

NEWS FROM THE ALLIANCE

- As a result of the current peak in covid-19 infections we have been working with secondary care teams to **re-establish the prioritisation and specialist clinical guidance** to support maintaining cancer services through the pandemic. With thanks to all trusts for working to develop the **TVCA prioritisation process** to manage pan alliance P2 urgent cancer treatments and where required seek mutual aid within the alliance. The SE region is also establishing a **regional escalation forum** to support any mutual aid requirements for patients within and outside of the SE region. Documentation will be presented for agreement at the TVCA Executive Board Tuesday 19th January and will be shared via Futures in next week's bulletin. Should you require any further information, please feel free to contact Ruth Wilcockson ruth.wilcockson@nhs.net
- As of Monday 11th January, a new **national daily cancer cancellations sit rep** has been introduced and requires each trust to report on the number of P1 & P2 cancellations, broken down by treatment type (surgery, radiotherapy and chemotherapy) and the numbers of P1 & P2 cancer patients who have a decision to treat but no treatment date scheduled. Again, broken down by treatment type. Following daily submissions, a daily report is produced and circulated to update on the national, regional and local picture. The TVCA will be reviewing the submissions via the Improvement Steering Group and secondary forum to support equity of access for all cancer patients across TVCA. Should you require any further information, please feel free to contact Victoria.saungweme@nhs.net
- **Lower GI update:** Please at this time can we reinforce the use of the **Thames Valley Lower GI Pathway** which includes use of FIT test in primary care for appropriate patients (see pathway attached). This is vitally important to ensure that the most at risk patients are prioritised for investigation at this time. The majority of patients require a FIT test as part of their referral and if <10 should be evaluated and safety netted in primary care. Please remind yourself of the groups who do not need a FIT test prior to referral and also how to contact for advice if you have ongoing concerns. Should you require any further information, please feel free to contact peter.hunt@nhs.net
- Our expressions of interest for a **Primary Care Clinical Lead for our Personalised Care programme** are still open. All details are in the attached document. Closing date for applications is 5pm on Sunday 24 January.

NEWS FROM THE SE REGION

- Please find attached, updated guidance on managing **the NHS Bowel Cancer Screening Programme** which references the involvement of ICS and Cancer Alliances on actions to take if local services are impacted. The guidance aims to support conversations NHSEI commissioners may have with service providers and sets out the expectation that screening services must continue as contracted, including continuing actions to support the restoration of NHS screening services. Technical guidance to manage invitations and appointments on BCSS is included for information but please note that any service change should be raised by the provider to NHSEI regional commissioners so that it can be considered, and mitigations put in place that minimises any disruption to delivery of the screening programmes.
- The UKSNC has made its decision on **bowel scope** and providers across the SE region were notified on December 10, that Public Health will be decommissioning in tandem with



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implementing age extension. The regional public health commissioning teams have shared the modelling with the programmes and will be working with lead providers to work up age extension plans over the next few weeks.

- The UK Chemotherapy Board have shared the attached **Clinician FAQ and guidance on the Covid-19 vaccine for patients receiving SACT**.
- Wokingham Borough Council have shared the attached flyer about some **Alcohol Awareness** webinars they are hosting on Zoom this month. Please share with your stakeholders and colleagues.

OTHER CANCER UPDATES

- Gateway C have shared details of a new course on cancer and “**Managing Physical Effects**”. Details can be found on their website: <https://bit.ly/2LodG9z>
- The NCRI webinar “**Developing a research strategy for never smoker lung cancer patients**”, takes place on Thursday 21 January, 9am-4.30pm. [More information is on their website](#).
- The National Cancer team have shared the attached **key messages for cancer**. These updates will be shared weekly. Please share these key lines with your teams.
- **Specialty guidance for cancer** is on the NICE website on their Covid-19 pages: <https://www.nice.org.uk/covid-19/specialty-guides>

CONTACT US: ENGLAND.TVCAADMIN@NHS.NET



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