



19 October 2020

Wessex Cancer Alliance Update Bulletin 23.

Please find below, details of the most recent communications and guidance issued for Cancer. Please share this with colleagues and other teams who may find these updates useful.

Wessex Cancer Alliance updates

A message from our Medical Director, Matt Hayes

During the COVID-pandemic, trusts have seen increases in the number of cancer patients breaching cancer waiting times standards, although in Wessex performance remains amongst the best in England. The South East regional team have asked its' four constituent Cancer Alliances to establish a common approach to examining the resulting delays in cancer pathways and to establish a mechanism for mitigating risk to such pathways from the current pandemic.

We propose a delayed-pathway review in 3 stages:

Phase 1: Standardise and review 104-day review process

- Conduct a stock-take of all Trust 104-day processes (both for diagnosed and suspected cancers) in Wessex Trusts and identify most impactful review practice for dissemination across Wessex
- Implement a South East regional agreed common specification for the 104d review process, with clarity around timelines, process, governance and enaction of patient-specific and pathway-specific actions, including Trust and Alliance board level visibility.
- Set up mechanisms to activate mutual aid across systems to share diagnostic pathway risk between providers without increasing inter-provider transfers of care.

Phase 2: Standardise and review an analogous 62-day mechanism once the 104 day target (0) is consistently achieved across Wessex.

Phase 3: Patient-centric risk-stratified approach (including the 28 day faster diagnostic standard FDS)

- Develop a tumour group-specific risk-stratification framework in collaboration with SSGs, that considers impact of delays on outcomes and experience within pathways
- Engage patients and other users to ensure acceptability of this approach.

This proposal has been approved by the regional team and by Wessex Trust medical directors, so the Alliance team will shortly be in touch with Trusts to establish a way forward. Thank you in anticipation of your help in this regard and for all your work in improving care for all our patients.

- **Empowering Engagement Programme** – Please find details attached about this highly regarded programme, provided by Wessex Voices and designed to support and develop our culture around public and patient involvement. Applications are now being accepted for this course.





Regional Information

- East Midlands Cancer Alliance have shared a useful [NG12 poster on NHS Futures](#). The poster provides a visual summary of the **NG12 Guidance: Suspected Cancer Recognition and Referral**. A copy of the poster is also attached.
- The next **pre/rehab webinar** will be taking place on Tuesday 27 October from 1-2pm. To attend, please use the following link to [Join Microsoft Teams Meeting](#)
- There is a **SafeFit webinar** taking place on Wednesday 4th November from 10.30am to 11.30am. Please find the agenda for this attached. If you wish to attend, please email the Alliance for a link to the meeting: england.wessexcanceralliance@nhs.net
- The **Macmillan Centre at University Hospital Southampton is open**. Available to listen, support and provide information Mondays to Fridays between 10am – 4pm. Due to limited space and a smaller team, we are restricting numbers of visitors into the centre at the moment. You can get in touch with us by phone 023 8120 6037 or email MacmillanCentre@uhs.nhs.uk. If you leave a message, we will respond the same day or the next working day. See the attached leaflet for further information.

National Information

- NHS England and NHS Improvement have launched the **access phase of the ‘Help Us Help You’** campaign. The campaign will encourage the public to contact their GP if they are worried about a symptom that could be cancer and includes TV and radio advertising. Cancer Alliances as well as local Trusts, STP’s and ICS’ have been asked to support the national campaign by retweeting social media messages and sharing the information that has been shared on the [Public Health Campaign Resource website](#).
- The HSJ have opened their application process for the **Value Awards 2021!** Wessex Cancer Alliance have been successful winners this year but could it be you or your team that take the trophy next year?! Find out more and enter here: [HSJ Value Awards 2021](#)
- CRUK have published a new paper; “**Cancer in the UK 2020: Socio economic deprivation**”. Please find a copy attached for your information.
- Please find a response to the **personalised stratified follow up report**, from the NHS Cancer programme in the following link: [NHS Cancer Programme response to PSFU report - Oct 2020](#)
- Also available on NHS futures, is the [PSFU Qualitative Study Report Final - Oct 2020](#)
- **Gateway C are holding a webinar on Acute Leukaemia** this Wednesday, 21 October at 1-2pm. Suitable for all health professionals interested in this topic: Register here - https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_QMO6289uRtKW95z9k3nYew
- **Specialty guidance for cancer** is being published here: <https://www.england.nhs.uk/coronavirus/secondary-care/other-resources/specialty-guides/>

Contact us

If you need to contact Wessex Cancer Alliance, please email:

england.wessexcanceralliance@nhs.net

