



2 November 2020

## Wessex Cancer Alliance Update Bulletin 24.

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

- Over the weekend, we heard the news that England will be entering a second lockdown later this week. We wish to reassure our colleagues, partners and voluntary sector support organisations, that we will continue to work with you in the ways we have been doing already this year and we endeavour to keep you updated and share any information we receive, as quickly and clearly as possible. It will come as no surprise to you that our need to continue with cancer services remains a priority as well as keeping our patients safe during this time. If we learnt anything from the last lockdown, it was that clear lines of communication and guidance, are absolutely vital in ensuring our patients continue to receive the high quality care and support they know and expect from us all. If you have any questions or comments about how we communicate with you, or about how this lockdown may impact your staff, colleagues or patients, please send us an email so we can ensure the support from our team, is always where it needs to be.
- We were delighted to hear about the really positive feedback received from a community radio station in Southampton, who have recently supported the Communities against Cancer project by running a series of **Cancer Care programmes** on their radio station; Awaaz FM. During these shows, they had 35 callers who spoke to them about how their perception of cancer has changed following the transmission of the programmes. Over 500 contacts were made via social media and feedback forms – 85% of the people who completed a feedback form, said the programmes were worth listening to and were useful to them. All the programmes have been shared on their website, so you can have a listen and please feel free to share among your teams and patients too.  
<https://www.awaazfm.co.uk/community/cancer-care-2019/>
- It is with regret that we inform you our Chair for Wessex Cancer Alliance, Paula Head is leaving her role with us and as Chief Executive at UHS Trust. Paula has responded to the National need for experienced leaders in confronting Covid 19. She is supporting the NHSI/E National Testing Director on the deployment of Rapid Testing, Point of Care Testing and Near Patient Testing programmes. She will be moving to this role immediately. Paula said “It is a wrench to leave my roles at the moment but I feel it is important to respond to and support the National effort in a way that uses my expertise and experience.” Matt Hayes and Sally Rickard will continue to lead the alliance and work with colleagues in our regional office to seek a new Executive Chair for the Alliance. We would like to thank Paula for all her hard work and vision in continuing to support and improve cancer services for the population of Wessex.

### Regional Information

- The South East regional comms team have **launched a series of radio adverts** this week with some targeted cancer messaging, along with generic winter messaging for the public. The adverts will be played across the Global radio stations including Capital FM, Heart FM and Radio X. A recording of the cancer message has been attached for your information.



@NHS\_WCA



## National Information

- Matt Hancock, Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, has [recorded a message of thanks to all colleagues in the cancer community](#) for helping to keep services running and bolstering public confidence in the NHS. Matt Hancock mentioned the vital work of charities and NHS colleagues to reassure patients that they can “come forward with confidence” if they have any worrying symptoms.
- Macmillan have published their report on the impact of Covid-19 on Cancer care; you can [read 'The Forgotten C' here](#).
- **Specialty guidance for cancer** is being published here: <https://www.england.nhs.uk/coronavirus/secondary-care/other-resources/specialty-guides/>
- **Macmillan Survivorship Research Group** have announced the launch of their ENABLE study report on the impact of Covid, which will be published tomorrow (Tuesday 3 November) here: <https://www.southampton.ac.uk/msrg/ourresearch/macmillan-supported-self-management-study.page>

## Contact us

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

[england.wessexcanceralliance@nhs.net](mailto:england.wessexcanceralliance@nhs.net)

