

West Midlands Cancer Alliance (WMCA)

27th November 2024

Board Briefing Note

For the attention of West Midlands Cancer Alliance (WMCA) board members, Accountable Officers, CEOs, cancer managers and cancer leads in ICB and provider organisations:

The WMCA Board met via MS Teams on Wednesday, 27th November 2024 to review the work and progress of the partner organisations in the WMCA. The meeting was chaired by Professor Andy Hardy, CEO of University Hospitals of Coventry and Warwickshire (UHCW). The Board had representation from three West Midlands Integrated Care Boards (ICBs). It also had representatives from NHS England and Healthwatch.

PRESENTATIONS

OUTpatients LGBTIQ+ Cancer Charity Presentation:

A presentation was given by OUTpatients Cancer Charity to highlight the many issues faced by the **LGBTIQ+** community and to raise awareness of opportunities for support including ensuring the use of correct pro-nouns, the offer of routine screening, considering patient's wishes through cancer pathways and at end-of-life, and ensuring safe and supportive environments are available, made possible through education and training.

- 45% of trans and 55% of non-binary people feel their GP does not understand their needs. Intersex people are more likely to report GP for not being supportive or knowing where to refer.
- 14% of LGBT+ people avoid healthcare. 27% of trans people 'always' or 'often' avoid GP visits for appointments like cancer screening. 57% of trans people avoid healthcare even when unwell.

WMCA will be working in partnership with OUTpatients to explore opportunities to co-produce bespoke health campaigns and information, roll out training and education across the health economy to support patient experience, access and outcomes, work to improve Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity (SOGI) monitoring and data collection to identify opportunities for improvement. Contact: Jill.Guild1@nhs.net

PERFORMANCE AND PROGRAMME UPDATE

Screening Update:

As of November 2024, the three cancer screening programmes continue to be delivered in line with national programme standards and within the required programme thresholds – where this is not the case individual programmes/providers and or ICB Systems have been highlighted within the relevant report narrative for the WMCA Boards information.

Bowel Cancer FIT@80 early adopters programme has been confirmed for Hereford & Worcestershire and The Black Country ICBs. Planning has commenced with implementation to go-live from January to March 2025 onwards.

The UK NSC will shortly be considering HPV self-sampling as an option for non-responders to a cervical screening invitation. Planning has started to ensure that if there is a UK NSC recommendation, and should government approve, the NHS is ready to implement. The planning is being led by the Vaccinations and Screening directorate in NHSE.

Contact: stephanie.beaumont@nhs.net

Performance Update:

A presentation was given on current performance. The Cancer 62-day standard requires continued focus for improvement and tumour level improvement plans to be developed as part of 25/26 planning. Contact: andy.field2@nhs.net

Targeted Lung Health Checks (TLHC) Programme Update:

This programme will become The National Lung Screening Programme from February 2025. Early-stage diagnosis for Lung cancer has risen from 28% in December 2020 to 38% in March 2024 across the West Midlands. Lung Screening very likely to be responsibility of ICBs for commissioning long term, with the delegation of other screening programmes from NHS England to ICBs from April 2026. Contact: khalid.arif@nhs.net

Liver Surveillance Programme Update:

The options appraisal for a provider call / recall system for liver surveillance was discussed and an option – RedCap - agreed. The robust system will be able track and invite eligible patients for liver surveillance, allowing clinical teams to monitor patients at high-risk of liver cancer with the aim of increasing the proportion of liver cancers diagnosed at an early stage.

Contact: harvir.singh@nhs.net

Multi-Disciplinary Team (MDT) Optimisation Programme Update:

A Project initiation document (PID) was presented on a comprehensive programme of work to support MDT optimisation. The Alliance will work with providers and ICBs to implement sustainable improvements to optimise the effectiveness of MDT meetings. This will include Peer Review, MDT self-assessment, MDT Pathway Review, MDT workforce training and support. Contact: marie-claire.wigley@nhs.net

Unscheduled Bleeding on HRT Update:

The Alliance continues to work with systems to implement an unscheduled bleeding on HRT pathway allowing for a change in current practice by removing patients at low risk of cancer, managing them in Primary Care where appropriate and referring patients only as and when certain risk factors are identified. The Board approved the model and supporting documents including referral form and urgent pelvic ultrasound scan referral form. The next step will be for

each ICB to approve and assist with engagement, implementation and delivery of the pathway.
Contact: kerry.sirrell@nhs.net

BUSINESS AND GOVERNANCE UPDATE

WMCA Finance Report

A summary report of allocations and spend was provided to the board

Review of WMCA Board and Governance

Papers were provided regarding a review of the West Midlands Cancer Alliance Board governance. As not all systems were represented colleagues have been requested, post board, to send any further comments to rwh-tr.wmcanceralliance@nhs.net by 13 December.

FOR REFERENCE

For further information please contact: Sarah Hughes, Managing Director, Midlands Cancer Alliances, email: sarah.hughes25@nhs.net, Telephone: 07876 869436.

Date of next Board Meeting: The next meeting of West Midland Cancer Alliance will be on **Wednesday, 29th January 2025 11am – 1pm.**

Please find below a table showing you who your West Midlands Cancer Alliance ICB representatives are:

ICB	Cancer Alliance Board ICB Representatives
Birmingham & Solihull	David Peake / Martin Richardson David.Peake@uhb.nhs.uk / Martin.richardson@uhb.nhs.uk
Coventry and Warwickshire	Amelia Godson amelia.godson1@nhs.net
Hereford and Worcestershire	Mari Gay / Angus Thomson marigay@nhs.net / angus.thomson1@nhs.net
Shropshire, Telford & Wrekin	Sheila Fryer / Maureen Wain sheila.fryer1@nhs.net / Maureen.wain1@nhs.net
Staffordshire & Stoke-on-rent	Gary Free / Helen Ashley gary.free@nhs.net / Helen.Ashley@uhnm.nhs.uk
The Black Country & West Birmingham	Diane Wake / Pip Mayo d.wake@nhs.net / pip.mayo@nhs.net