

West Midlands Cancer Alliance Update

Issue:64

1st November 2024

Introduction

Dear Colleagues,

Welcome and thank you for reading. Every ICS and every team in the West Midlands are a constituent member of the West Midlands Cancer Alliance (WMCA) and valued stakeholder, and each newsletter is designed to include relevant content for you. The aim is to better coordinate the vast amount of information and events associated with cancer that will be useful in building knowledge and shaping the work we do, individually and collectively to improve outcomes and increase survivorship for the West Midlands population. You are welcome to disseminate this newsletter within your teams.

Sarah Hughes
Managing Director, Midlands Cancer Alliances

PRIMARY CARE FOCUS

Primary Care Cancer Focus – Dr Jim McMorran

Is this another use for FIT?

With respect to colonic polyps, consensus guidelines developed by the British Society of Gastroenterology, the Association of Coloproctology of Great Britain and Ireland and Public Health England defined whether colorectal polyps were high-risk or low-risk and the respective follow up for colonoscopy surveillance (1).

However, a recently published trial showed that the number of colonoscopies required in surveillance could be reduced by using annual Faecal Immunochemical Tests (FIT) (2). The study found that stool-based post-polypectomy surveillance strategies (microsimulation modelling using annual FIT-based surveillance with FOB-gold at a threshold ≥ 32 $\mu\text{g/g}$ faeces) can be safe and cost-effective, with potential to reduce the number of colonoscopies by up to 41%.

The FIT level for requiring colonoscopy was ≥ 32 $\mu\text{g/g}$ faeces which is higher than the threshold used in urgent colorectal cancer pathways.

This study illustrates another potential use of FIT to reduce the number of colonoscopies required for patients who have undergone removal of a colonic polyp/

Reference:

1. BSG/ACPGBI/PHE (September 2019).Post-polypectomy and post-colorectal cancer resection surveillance guidelines.
2. Carvalho B et al. Stool-Based Testing for Post-Polypectomy Colorectal Cancer Surveillance Safely Reduces Colonoscopies: The Molecular Stool Testing for Colorectal Cancer Surveillance Study. Gastroenterology. 2024 Aug 30:S0016-5085(24)05402-7.

FOR INFORMATION

Cancer Patient Experience Survey 2024:

We have launched our National Cancer Patient Experience Survey (NCPES), asking for feedback from cancer patients (16 years and over*), to inform and improve local cancer services across England.

We want our patients to have the best experience possible and hearing about your experience is crucial in helping us deliver what you need and want. The NHS and cancer charities use the results to understand what is working well and which areas need improvement. The results enable them to identify national and local priorities and work with patients and partners to deliver improvements.

Those who were treated for cancer as an inpatient or day-case, and left hospital in April, May or June 2024, will be invited to take part in the survey. If you receive an invitation, please fill out the questionnaire and have your say so we can deliver the best possible service to patients. If you need support completing the survey or need it made available in another language, you can call the free helpline number 0800 103 2804. For more information about the survey and other ways to provide feedback on cancer care please visit www.ncpes.co.uk.



Ovarian Cancer – Symptoms and Examination:

In 2021, 63% (345) ovarian cancers were diagnosed at stages 3 and 4 – data taken from the National Disease Registration Service dashboard. The Gynae Operational Delivery Network (ODN) have developed the following educational video resulting from an audit performed looking at the number of

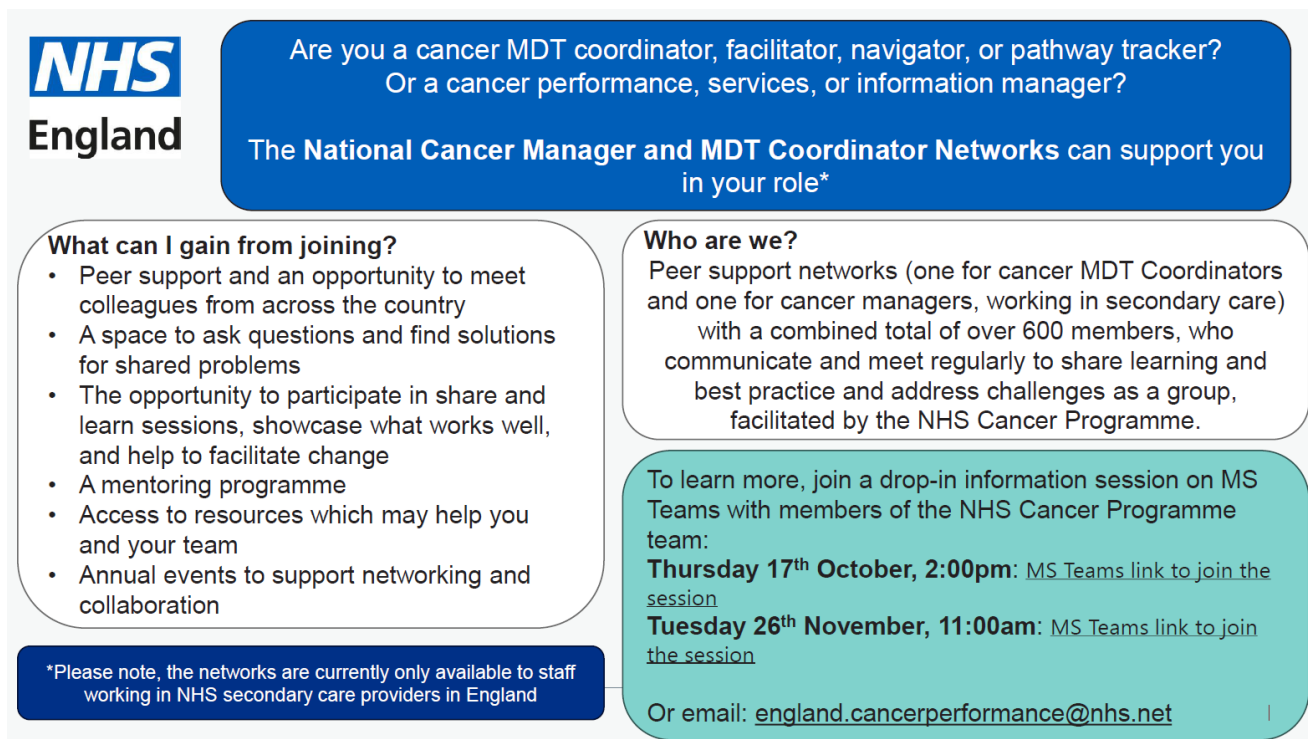
CA125 blood requests over a 12-month period for patients aged 25 and over. This video has been designed and created to support healthcare professionals within a Primary Care setting who undertake consultations with patients that may be showing symptoms associated with Ovarian Cancer.

[WMCA v3 \(youtube.com\)](#)

National Cancer Manager and MDT Coordinator Networks:

The membership of the National Cancer Manager and MDT Coordinator Networks continues to grow, and we're keen to support anyone in these roles in a secondary care provider who wishes to join or is interested in further information on what the networks offer. We would be very grateful if Cancer Alliances could circulate the attached poster to their secondary care providers to advertise the networks.

If anyone would like to discuss the network further, please contact england.cancerperformance@nhs.net.



The poster is titled 'NHS England' in the top left corner. The main heading asks 'Are you a cancer MDT coordinator, facilitator, navigator, or pathway tracker? Or a cancer performance, services, or information manager?' and states 'The National Cancer Manager and MDT Coordinator Networks can support you in your role*'. It is divided into three sections: 'What can I gain from joining?' with a list of benefits, 'Who are we?' describing the peer support networks, and a section for drop-in information sessions with dates and links. A footer note states that the networks are currently only available to staff working in NHS secondary care providers in England. The contact email is provided at the bottom right.

NHS England

Are you a cancer MDT coordinator, facilitator, navigator, or pathway tracker?
Or a cancer performance, services, or information manager?

The National Cancer Manager and MDT Coordinator Networks can support you in your role*

What can I gain from joining?

- Peer support and an opportunity to meet colleagues from across the country
- A space to ask questions and find solutions for shared problems
- The opportunity to participate in share and learn sessions, showcase what works well, and help to facilitate change
- A mentoring programme
- Access to resources which may help you and your team
- Annual events to support networking and collaboration

Who are we?

Peer support networks (one for cancer MDT Coordinators and one for cancer managers, working in secondary care) with a combined total of over 600 members, who communicate and meet regularly to share learning and best practice and address challenges as a group, facilitated by the NHS Cancer Programme.

To learn more, join a drop-in information session on MS Teams with members of the NHS Cancer Programme team:

Thursday 17th October, 2:00pm: [MS Teams link to join the session](#)

Tuesday 26th November, 11:00am: [MS Teams link to join the session](#)

*Please note, the networks are currently only available to staff working in NHS secondary care providers in England

Or email: england.cancerperformance@nhs.net

GatewayC

We are pleased to share promotional assets for series 2 episode 8 of GatewayC's GPs Talk Cancer podcast. Linked is a [communications pack](#) for **Episode 8 – Endometrial Cancer**. This pack includes:

- Suggested social copy/visual assets
- Newsletter and bulletin copy

You can access all promotional materials for this series so far [here](#). We would really appreciate your support in sharing amongst your networks and colleagues.

Welcome to November's issue of the East Midlands Cancer Alliance Newsletter. Please see link below.



East Midlands Cancer Alliance: **Achieving World Class Outcomes**

[November 2024](#)

Welcome and thank you for reading. Every ICS and every team in the East Midlands is a constituent member of the East Midlands Cancer Alliance (EMCA) and valued stakeholder, and each monthly...

[Go to this Sway](#)

Please use the link below to access the October issue for the Cancer Academy eBulletin.



[Cancer Academy October eBulletin](#)

Welcome to the October issue of our monthly Cancer Academy eBulletin. In this edition we have included:

[Go to this Sway](#)

Midlands Outpatient Transformation Programme Newsletter:

Please find below link to the latest Midlands Outpatient Transformation Programme Newsletter. Should colleagues wish to know more about any of our workstreams, we encourage you to contact us via our team inbox england.midsopandec@nhs.net and we'd be happy to discuss with you.



[Outpatient Transformation Programme Newsletter](#)

October 2024

[Go to this Sway](#)

If colleagues experience difficulties opening the above Sway link, our programme newsletters are saved on our FutureNHS workspace, [here](#).

EVENTS UPDATE

WMCA Expert Advisory Group (EAG) Meetings:

Please see below details of upcoming WMCA EAG Meetings. Please note that these meetings are for EAG Members only. For more information about joining these meetings, please email: rwh-tr.wmcanceralliance@nhs.net

4 th November 2024:	Haematology EAG
14 th November 2024:	Sarcoma EAG
19 th November 2024:	SACT EAG
21 st November 2024:	HPB EAG
21 st November 2024:	Cancer Trust Manager& Lead Nurses Meeting
22 nd November 2024:	Upper GI EAG
27 th November 2024:	Primary Care EAG
28 th November 2024:	Skin EAG
28 th November 2024:	Children's & TYA EAG
28 th November 2024:	Psychosocial EAG
3 rd December 2024:	Urology EAG
4 th December 2024:	Colorectal EAG
6 th December 2024:	MSCC AO & CUP EAG
10 th December 2024:	Lung EAG
10 th December 2024:	NET EAG
11 th December 2024:	WMCA EAG Chairs, Deputies and Clinical Pathway Leads Meeting
13 th December 2024:	Radiotherapy EAG

13th December 2024: Head and Neck EAG
17th December 2024: Gynae EAG
19th December 2024: SACT EAG

***Please note that dates are correct at time of publication**

Cancer Awareness Events

Cancer awareness days, weeks and months are important in helping us to spread awareness and show support for people living with cancer. Increasing cancer awareness in more deprived areas could help to reduce health inequalities and improve cancer outcomes. Having cancer awareness will give you the confidence to speak to a doctor if something doesn't feel normal to you, as spotting cancer early increases the chance of survival. Please see attached link for details:

<https://acrobat.adobe.com/id/urn:aaid:sc:EU:7312095d-40a9-468a-b5ee-a80e4fab5378>

UK Skin Cancer Clinical Trials Group

The Group is actively looking to expand representation from the following fields and disciplines, to ensure we have expertise from across the spectrum of clinical trial design, development and conduct. If you have expertise in the following fields, or work with colleagues who do, please cascade this email through your networks as an invitation to participate in driving the national UK platform of academic skin cancer research:

- Pathologists
- Statisticians / Trials methodologists
- Clinical trial operations / management
- Pharmacists

We are aware that with fixed clinical commitments, always having the meeting on the same day of the week may be difficult for some participants to be involved. We have decided for now to have bi-monthly meetings alternating between Tuesday and Thursday 4-5pm. The idea is that sub-groups should then be able to spin out and have their own meetings as they become more active.

Next planned meeting dates:

Thursday 7th Nov 4-5pm

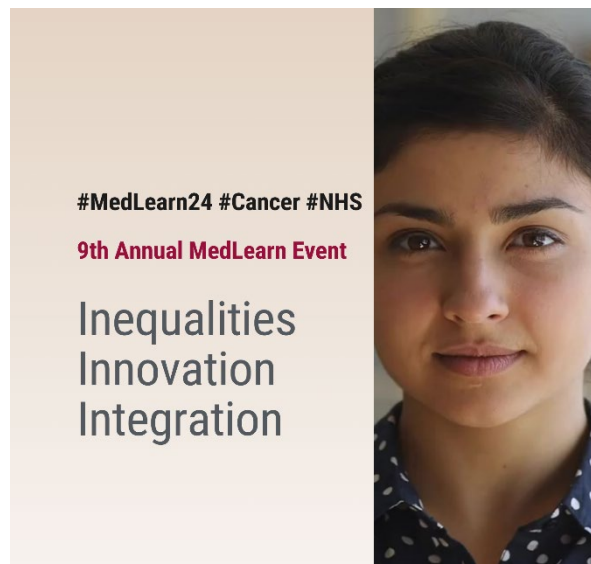
Terms of Reference

You can read the Terms of Reference document for the UKSCCTG [here](#).

Join us for the 9th Annual Virtual MedLearn Event, "Inequalities, Innovation, Integration" hosted by Medicine Gov and partnered with the British Asian Cancer Charity on the Medicine Gov YouTube Channel, premiering on November 19, 2024. View the attached video clip for details.

This event is complimentary for the NHS and small charities, convening oncology and healthcare professionals to tackle cancer disparities experienced by all diverse population groups — encompassing variations in care access, treatment outcomes, and research opportunities. Discover pioneering oncology solutions, collaborative approaches to cancer diagnosis, treatment, and research, and contribute insights to advance cancer services.

Explore more about the three workstreams and how to submit a video to be featured in MedLearn24 and actively promoted for three months at <https://medicinegov.org/>.



Macmillan:

We are pleased to invite you to our two celebration events hosted by the Macmillan Personalised Care Team. These events are specifically celebrating our achievements over the past year whilst working with cancer teams to improve Personalised Cancer Care. Additionally, we will be sharing our exciting future plans with you.

We will be holding these events across UHB where you will be able to hear from the team members, meet the Macmillan Personalised Care Team, and connect with other stakeholders to discuss shared goals and collaboration opportunities.

Event details:

Date: Wednesday 20th November 2024
Time: 9.30am – 12.00pm and 1.30pm – 4pm (repeated session)
Location: Good Hope Hospital, Education Centre, Room 2.

Date: Thursday 28th November 2024
Time: 9.30am – 12.00pm and 1.30pm – 4pm (repeated session)
Location: Heartlands Hospital, Education Centre, Room 3.

What to Expect

Highlights of our Achievements:

- A presentation showcasing our accomplishments over the past year.
- How we work with cancer care teams to improve holistic care within their cancer pathways.
- Future plans to improve Personalised Care within UHB and collaboration with Community and Primary Care.

Why attend?

Join us in recognising the hard work, dedication and the positive outcomes for patients. Participate in discussions about the future of Personalised Care and how we can continue to innovate and improve. Strengthen relationships with our team and other key stakeholders, fostering a collaborative approach

to personalised care. Your support and collaboration have been essential to our success, and we look forward to celebrating with you. Please join one of our sessions by registering via the link below. We will also send out a detailed agenda in the near future. Do feel free to distribute this to your teams & colleagues and we look forward to seeing you all there.

<https://forms.office.com/e/yywfZ2XGw9>

Seths Legacy Pancreatic Cancer, Compassion and Creativity Conference

Book your place at the Seths Legacy Pancreatic Cancer, Compassion and Creativity Conference using the following information:

20TH NOVEMBER
WEDNESDAY
10 UNTIL 3.30
AM PM

SETHS LEGACY
PANCREATIC CANCER,
COMPASSION AND CREATIVITY
Conference

SCAN THE QR CODE
BELOW TO BOOK YOUR
PLACE

EXPLORING PANCREATIC CANCER AND END-OF-LIFE CARE

JOIN US AS WE DELVE INTO KEY TOPICS, INCLUDING:

- LIVED EXPERIENCES OF INCURABLE PANCREATIC CANCER
- EMOTIONAL AND PSYCHOLOGICAL NEEDS OF PATIENTS
- SIGNS, SYMPTOMS, AND PEER SUPPORT FROM THE PURPLE RAINBOW SUPPORT GROUP
- ADVANCED CARE PLANNING FOR END OF LIFE
- COMPASSIONATE CARE AT END OF LIFE
- THE ROLE OF CREATIVITY AND STORYTELLING IN IMPROVING HEALTHCARE

SPECIAL PERFORMANCES INCLUDE:

- A DRAMA EXPLORING PANCREATIC CANCER
- FRONTLINEDANCE'S "HOLDING ON," CREATED AND PERFORMED BY THOSE AFFECTED BY CANCER

Email: ljgoodburn@aol.com Keele University Chapel, Keele University, Keele ST5 5BG

SACT and Acute Oncology conferences / podcast:

[The SACT Board annual conference](#)

Thursday 28th November 2024

The Pullman London St Pancras Hotel

[The Immunobuddies Podcast:](#)

This weekly podcast is led by Dr Ricky Frazer and Dr Anna Olsson-Brown and is aimed at anyone with an interest in immunotherapy and its development. Discussions focus on the dilemmas, challenges and progress made in the management of patients receiving immunotherapies to treat cancer.

Surgical Day: Invasive multidisciplinary management of Gastroenteropancreatic Neuroendocrine Tumours (NETs): scopes, knives, needles and robots

Tuesday 3rd December at Mercure Cardiff Holland House Hotel From 08:30am – 17:00pm

This meeting is for people making decisions on treatments for patients with NETs. This meeting is important for regional Cancer Alliances, Specialist Commissioners, and the HPB and Colorectal Expert Advisory Groups whose members are often responsible for the initial care of patients with NETs. Delegates will achieve a good understanding of the present role of surgery and the availability of surgical and associated expertise around the UK. The symposium will help develop a national strategy for surgery in patients with NETs.

We hope you can join us for the symposium, which takes place the day after the UKI NETS 22nd National Conference, Cardiff UK.

For Registration: [UKI NETS 2024 Annual Conference – Registration – UKI NETS](#)



VACANCIES

WMCA Expert Advisory Group Recruitment:

The West Midlands Cancer Alliance are currently in the process of recruiting to vacancies for the following Expert Advisory Groups (EAG's):

- Haematology EAG **Deputy Chair**
- Children's EAG **Deputy Chair**
- MCCC AO & CUP EAG **Deputy Chair**
- Upper GI EAG **Chair and Deputy Chair**
- Head and Neck EAG **Deputy Chair**
- Gynae EAG **Deputy Chair**
- Radiotherapy EAG **Chair and Deputy Chair**
- Urology EAG **Deputy Chair**
- Psychosocial EAG **Deputy Chair**

We are looking for candidates based on the following criteria:

- Ability to deliver national and regional work programme obligations.
- Demonstrable collaborative working with West Midlands Cancer Alliance.
- Experience with service change at scale.

- Credibility as a Cancer specialist in the West Midlands region.
- Regular attendance at EAGs or member of a Task and Finish group.
- Must be a current member of the West Midlands EAG group.

Candidates are asked to send their expressions of interest forms (see attached below) via email with accompanying CVs, stating why you would like to apply for this post, what you can bring to the post and your relevant experience for the role of Chair / Deputy Chair for the EAG to the following email: angela.gould1@nhs.net **by 5pm on Friday 15th November 2024.**

EOI Form: <https://acrobat.adobe.com/id/urn:aaid:sc:EU:562a4e31-ea85-4b28-a057-93a742da4bc9>

Patient and Public Voice (PPV) Partner within the NHS Cancer Programme

With the ending of the tenure of the West Midlands representatives, would you be interested in becoming a Patient and Public Voice (PPV) Partner within the NHS Cancer Programme. As a PPV Partner you will become part of the Patient and Public Voice (PPV) Forum which brings together all of the PPV Partners within the NHS Cancer Programme. The Forum was first established in 2019 and has continued to grow from strength to strength. PPV Partners play an essential role in supporting the NHS national Cancer Programme team, alongside other partners and stakeholders, to shape projects with people and community voices. They provide advice, perspective and contribute to the design of new national programme systems, policies, and procedures and help the programme to meet the needs to the best of our abilities. NHS England is committed to ensuring that our health and care services are shaped in partnership with people and communities. Every level of our system needs to be informed by insightful methods of listening to those who use and care about our services. Our commitment to supporting our PPV Partners is set out in our [PPV Partners Policy](#). Please read this application information pack (attached) before completing the application form for this role, to ensure you fully understand the application process, and to determine whether you have the skills and time to become a PPV Partner.

For further information, please contact: Carolyn Parker: rwh-tr.wmcanceralliance@nhs.net

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Staffordshire Targeted Lung Health Checks programme has been nominated for the 2024 NHS Parliamentary Awards for their excellent progress in reducing health inequalities within Lung Cancer Screening. They have been working to increase access to underserved communities, including Prison Populations and Traveller Communities to increase uptake within these groups. Their work will help us understand how we best serve these communities, and best practice will support broader learning within the region and nationally.

We want to take this opportunity to congratulate Dr Imran Hussain, Janina Barnett, Jessica Mulroy 'Johnson and the rest of the Staffordshire TLHC team for their outstanding work and wish them luck with winning the award.





NHS Parliamentary Awards 2024

Huge congratulations to our regional champions in the **Midlands** who have been recognised for their outstanding contribution to the NHS

The Excellence in Healthcare Award Living With and Beyond, Cancer Services App – Worcestershire Acute Hospitals NHS Trust	The Nursing and Midwifery Award The Frailty Admission and Discharge Unit Team, Nottingham University Hospitals NHS Trust	The Excellence in Urgent and Emergency Care Award Same Day Emergency Care – University Hospitals of Derby and Burton NHS Trust
The Excellence in Mental Health Care Award Coventry Mental Health Homeless Team	The Health Equalities Award Staffordshire Lung Health Checks	The Excellence in Education and Training Award Lincolnshire Health and Care Apprentice Centre
The Future NHS Award Sandwell & West Birmingham NHS Trust Musculoskeletal Service Team	The Excellence in Primary Care and Community Care Award Worcester City Primary Care Network	The Volunteer Award Leicestershire, Leicester & Rutland Headway
		The Lifetime Achievement Award Garry Swann

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If you would like to contribute to future newsletters or believe we have missed something, please share what you are seeing with us, and we can distribute across the Region:

Please also share with us achievements and things to celebrate across the region, including awards won, recognition of good practice and mentions for colleagues who warrant special recognition who may be leaving us. Please submit on a fortnightly basis on Wednesday's.

- Angela Gould, West Midlands Cancer Alliance: angela.gould1@nhs.net