



## Humber, Coast and Vale Cancer Alliance

### June 2021 Stakeholder Update

#### A message from Yvonne Elliott, Managing Director

Thanks for taking the time to read our most recent quarterly stakeholder update. As we continue to deliver our Long Term Plan commitments, the Alliance also remains focused on recovering cancer services impacted by the Covid-19 pandemic by;

- Encouraging and supporting people with concerning symptoms to come forward
- Providing a timely diagnosis for people who have cancer
- Ensuring patients receive effective and tailored treatment and after-care

Reducing unwarranted variations in treatment and outcomes is an important area of work and there are opportunities coming out of our recovery, such as faster implementation of new innovations that are helping to accelerate transformation.

The last year has been really hard for both cancer patients and staff delivering cancer services and, through our involvement with various engagement activities, such as the NHS Cancer Improvement Collaborative, the Humber Acute Service Review and our Support Group Network, we are learning from the experiences of people whose care may have changed or been disrupted during the pandemic.

In this update you can find out more about the recent work that has taken place across the Alliance, and further information is available to view on our [website](#).

### Awareness and Early Diagnosis

#### Lung Health Checks

Following a temporary pause due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the lung health check (LHC) service in Hull is now running three days a week at Castle Hill Hospital.

Uptake has continued to improve as lockdown restrictions have eased and so far, more than 1,200 people have attended their appointment since April 2021.

The Alliance has been working with its partners, NHS Hull CCG and Hull University Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust to help raise awareness of the LHC programme and two patients recently featured on ITV calendar, BBC Look North and BBC Radio Humberside to promote the service. Click here to view Christine and Danny's [story](#).

To find out more about the programme, please visit [www.lunghealthcheck.org.uk](http://www.lunghealthcheck.org.uk).



## Primary Care

Humber, Coast and Vale Cancer Alliance is continuing to work with its partners in Primary Care to support GP practices to restore and improve local uptake of cancer screening services, increase early diagnosis in terms of two week wait (2WW) referrals and addressing inequalities.

This includes Cancer Research UK facilitators delivering Cancer Champion training to practice staff and the continued implementation of faecal immunochemical (FIT) testing for symptomatic patients, which is helping to support risk stratification and clinical prioritisation.

The Alliance is also working in partnership with independent health advisory [Attain](#) to develop a bid to Yorkshire Cancer Research that, if successful, will support improved uptake of screening in targeted areas, assist with the further roll out of the Cancer Champion programme, and help to support healthcare professionals to identify and resolve barriers to early diagnosis of cancer.

## Cancer Champions

In partnership with City Health Care Partnership (CHCP), the Alliance is working to raise awareness of cancer and support people with learning disabilities to participate in national screening programmes when invited. Part of this work includes delivering Cancer Champion training to staff working in care residencies and, on 18<sup>th</sup> May, Emma Lewin, Volunteer Co-ordinator at the Alliance, delivered a short session for an ECHO project.

A new communications toolkit has been developed to help promote uptake of free 90 minute virtual Cancer Champion awareness sessions. Designed for use by partner organisations across the Humber, Coast and Vale region, the toolkit contains materials suitable for use across three target audiences; corporate, community, and education.

If you would like a copy of the toolkit, please email [comms.hcvcanceralliance@nhs.net](mailto:comms.hcvcanceralliance@nhs.net) or to find out more about the Cancer Champion programme, please visit [www.hcvcanceralliance.org.uk/cancerchampions](http://www.hcvcanceralliance.org.uk/cancerchampions).

## Diagnostics

### Rapid Diagnostic Centres

Northern Lincolnshire and Goole NHS Foundation Trust's three month pilot of the Rapid Diagnostic Centre (RDC) Gastrointestinal (GI) pathway has gone live across both sites from



1<sup>st</sup> June 2021. The pilot is open to two Primary Care Networks (PCNs), one in Northern Lincolnshire and one in North East Lincolnshire. Success of the pathway will be measured in terms of reduction in two week wait (2WW) referrals, an improvement in the 28 day faster diagnosis standard and the number of referrals into the pathway from the PCNs.

The York and Scarborough services continue to attract national recognition as an example of good practice, with Laura Brett, RDC Patient Navigator at York and Scarborough NHS Foundation Trust, sharing information about the role and best practice from the Trust at a national RDC virtual event.

HCV Cancer Alliance continues to work with stakeholders to embed RDC principles and pathways across our site specific pathways and, as the Alliance continues to mitigate against the impact of COVID-19, RDCs will help increase capacity, reduce backlogs, and support the ambition of achieving faster diagnosis for patients. [Click here](#) to find out more about Rapid Diagnostic Centres in Humber, Coast and Vale.

### Community Diagnostic Hubs

Work continues on plans for the development of Community Diagnostic Hubs (CDHs) across Humber, Coast and Vale. A programme planning team has been established and work is underway in each place to draw up the list of proposals for both full specification Hubs and other community based diagnostic services, in line with national guidance.

A list of evaluation criteria has been agreed and will be used to identify schemes that will be included in the [Humber, Coast and Vale Health and Care Partnership's](#) proposed multi-year programme of CDH developments. Public health, digital and diagnostics capacity and demand data will be used to support the development of the programme plan. The deadline for submission of the initial programme plan is 15<sup>th</sup> September 2021.

### Innovation

From May, patients on an urgent cancer pathway at York Teaching Hospital NHS Foundation Trust have been offered a new diagnostic test. As part of a nationwide pilot, the Trust is trialling miniature cameras no bigger than a pill, which patients can swallow instead of undergoing a colonoscopy.

Known as a Colon Capsule Endoscopy, the cameras are the latest NHS innovation to help patients' access cancer checks at home. The new imaging technology can provide a diagnosis within hours, contrary to traditional endoscopies, where patients would need to attend hospital and have a tube inserted.



Currently, 11 patients have been identified as appropriate patients for this trial at both York and Scarborough sites.

## Treatment and Pathways

### Skin Cancer Pathways

In order to support the recovery of NHS cancer services from Covid-19 and help safely manage and reduce waiting lists, Hull University Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust has introduced an image pathway for two week wait and suspected skin cancer referrals.

The use of dermatoscopes in primary care enables trained GPs to attach microscopic images to suspected skin cancer referrals, which helps secondary care clinicians to rule out or diagnose cancer earlier.

To help facilitate the increased use of teledermatology, Humber, Coast and Vale Cancer Alliance has worked collaboratively with its primary and secondary care partners to provide 60 new iPhones and dermatoscopes to GP Practices across Hull and East Riding and provide specialised training opportunities for GPs.

[Click here](#) to view a video containing more information.

## Living With and Beyond Cancer

### Cancer Improvement Collaborative

The NHS Cancer Improvement Collaborative programme improves experience of care in cancer care services by drawing on data from the annual national Cancer Patient Experience Survey (CPES) and other sources of insight and feedback.

As the views and experiences of teenage and young adult patients can be often be underrepresented, Hull University Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust used the 2020/21 collaborative project to developed a patient satisfaction survey that helped to identify what parts of the Teenagers and Young Adults (TYA) service at Castle Hill Hospital were working well, areas for improvement, and the impact of Covid-19.

The survey was co-produced with patient partners and received a high response rate of 67%. Overall, the feedback received from this questionnaire was extremely positive, with the majority of respondents speaking very highly of the service. An action plan based on recommendations from the survey report is now helping the TYA team further improve experience of care and access to the service. To view the full report, please [click here](#).



### Quality of Life Survey

People living with and beyond cancer across the UK are helping to improve cancer services by completing a new NHS Quality of Life (QOL) Survey. Launched in September 2020, the QOL survey is helping the NHS to understand the impact of cancer and its treatment and how well people are living after treatment.

Currently, people living with or beyond prostate, colorectal and breast cancer are invited to take part in the survey 18 months post diagnosis. From 1<sup>st</sup> July 2021, 10% of people living with or beyond other cancer tumour sites will also be invited and, in October 2021, this will increase to 100% of patients 18 months after a cancer diagnosis.

To ensure the results represent our region, Humber, Coast and Vale Cancer Alliance is encouraging as many people as possible to fill out the survey. Since its launch, over 650 people living in HCV have completed the survey, which equates to a response rate of 50% - 2% above the national average.

To find out more about the survey, please visit [www.cancergol.england.nhs.uk](http://www.cancergol.england.nhs.uk) or if you have any questions, please email [Alison.Cockeril@nhs.net](mailto:Alison.Cockeril@nhs.net)

### Support Group Network

Humber, Coast and Vale Cancer Alliance is pleased to be hosting its third Support Group Share and Learn event on 4<sup>th</sup> August 2021.

This free event provides support group volunteers with an opportunity to share experiences with other representatives, pose questions to the Cancer Alliance, and hear about the support that is available to help groups continue their work as cancer support groups across Humber, Coast and Vale. [Click here](#) to find out more and to register for the event.

### Training Opportunities

#### Cancer Demystified

Humber, Coast and Vale Cancer Alliance is pleased to offer free Cancer Demystified webinar training for staff working in cancer services at Hull University Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust, York Teaching Hospital NHS Foundation Trust and Northern Lincolnshire and Goole NHS Foundation Trust.

Each 'Cancer Demystified' webinar covers a different topic, from the staging and grading of cancer and how chemotherapy works, to in-depth descriptions of different cancer types and



more. The free sessions are available until 31st March 2022. [Click here](#) for more information and to sign up.

### **"What Matters to Me" – Personalised Care e-learning Module**

A new "What Matters to Me" personalised care e-learning module is now available [here](#).

The module, which has been created by Macmillan Cancer Support and NHS England and Improvement Living With and Beyond Cancer Team and Personalised Care Group, covers personalising your care and support plan for people living with cancer, and is suitable for all levels of staff working with people affected by cancer.

### **Keep up-to-date with news from across the Alliance**

You can read the latest news on our website [here](#), or find us on social media:



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