

# Primary Care LWBC Cancer Scheme 2017-2019

## Kernow CCG

### Summary

As part of the 'World Class Cancer Services 2015-2020 ambition the care for those living with and beyond cancer has been identified as an area of continued improvement. Funding was made available for cancer alliance led bids to cover the 2 years from April 2017. The CCG, as part of the Peninsula Cancer Alliance has been successful in securing transformation funding for the explicit purpose of improving the care available in the Primary Care system for patients living with and beyond cancer. The following proposal is for the funding to be utilised via locality structures to support the time taken by practices that sign up to take part in the work detailed below.

### Background

The Quality and Outcomes Framework requires all patients diagnosed with cancer to receive a Cancer Care Review (CCR) within 6 months of the diagnosis. With increasing numbers of patients surviving their cancer diagnosis, cancer follow up in primary care is likely to resemble that of other long term conditions. By bringing representatives from practices together in a quality improvement initiative it is hoped that practices will be able to learn from and motivate one another.

GPs recognise the value in learning from Significant Event Analysis (SEA). Recently the RCGP together with Macmillan and NHS England have created a toolkit to help in the evaluation of a cancer diagnosis to prompt learning and achieve earlier diagnosis for our patients. SEA also called Significant Event Review is increasingly part of general practice and can be used for wide system learning. Reflecting on and learning from individual cases can improve the quality of care overall, and can form part of a practice's learning and quality improvement. The Cancer Scheme will support individual practices to complete a SEA and share learning with colleagues

[http://www.cancerresearchuk.org/sites/default/files/ncda\\_toolkit-final\\_1.pdf](http://www.cancerresearchuk.org/sites/default/files/ncda_toolkit-final_1.pdf)

Many cancer patients consider the interface between primary and secondary care difficult, and making a patient's journey as smooth and as safe as possible requires excellent communication between primary and secondary care teams. This is especially crucial at the point of diagnosis, during treatment and when the patient completes treatment. The Cancer Scheme proposed will give practices the opportunity to evaluate letters received from secondary care colleagues when there is cancer diagnosis, and will consider the impact on patient care if a Treatment Summary is provided when a patient is discharged from cancer services.

[https://www.macmillan.org.uk/documents/aboutus/health\\_professionals/recovery\\_package/treatmentsummary.pdf](https://www.macmillan.org.uk/documents/aboutus/health_professionals/recovery_package/treatmentsummary.pdf)

The bid proposed using this resource to provide:

1. Training for GPs and Practice nurses around the provision of the Cancer Care Review (CCR), to explore an improvement in quality of the reviews already being conducted through sharing of ideas between representatives from practices, and completing a simple CCR Macmillan module
2. Engagement in Significant Event Analysis (SEA) and practices will complete a Significant Event Analysis/Review where there has been a cancer diagnosis.
3. Review of communication received between primary and secondary care when there is a cancer diagnosis

One of the main themes of the bid is to improve continuity between secondary and primary care by ensuring that a Treatment Summary including a Holistic Needs Assessment (HNA) is provided on completion of the initial therapeutic pathway, and that the primary care team are in a position to follow this up, checking that the patients' holistic needs are being met.

The bid further proposes that this work may serve to increase patients' ability to live independently with cancer, and that if cancer care reviews are done to their best possible effect, this may actually decrease rather than increase the workload in primary care.

Kernow CCG proposes to use the allocated resource in working jointly with Macmillan to support practices to work towards these objectives.

## **Project outline**

Macmillan has offered funding to support Cornwall practices to participate in SEA around cancer diagnosis and treatment.

The CCG will work with Macmillan to provide meetings with a joint purpose:

1. Engagement in SEA
2. Discuss ways to improve Cancer Care Reviews.
3. Review of communication between primary and secondary care interface

## **Project Detail**

Each GP Practice will be asked to provide a GP and Practice Nurse to attend two meetings. One will be held in April/May and the other in October/November

It is proposed that Practices will be clustered geographically and Macmillan will organise meetings at a Locality level offering 4 different locations.

### **Meeting One (April/May 2018)**

Before the meeting practices will be asked to complete Module 4: Cancer Care Review from the Macmillan resource 'Cancer care in Primary Care: A Quality Toolkit for General Practice' which details an approach to improving the CCR. It also requires practices to complete an audit of a sample of CCRs undertaken over the past year, and consider opportunities for improvement. Practices will also be asked to consider trialling a change in approach to the CCR for some or all of their patients based on the findings of their audit.

At the meeting, practices will be asked to describe their current approach to cancer care review and to 'brainstorm' ideas on how this may be improved. Practice representatives will then be introduced to material describing an approach to improving the quality of this service, alongside a description of the objectives of the LWBC bid.

The second part of the meeting will introduce the Macmillan SEA Toolkit, (which has already met with an enthusiastic response from those GPs who have used it) and explain the SEA practices will be expected to complete before the second meeting

### **Meeting Two (Oct/Nov 2018)**

Practices will be asked to present their findings, reflecting on opportunities for and tests of improvement.

### **Allocation of funds**

Macmillan has access to some funding which will support organisation of the meetings and the time dedicated by the Macmillan GPs.

The CCG funding will be used to enable the attendance of the GP and nurse at the two meetings, and to support the clinical time spent in auditing CCR activity, the completion of an SEA and the review of secondary care letters received for between 5-10 cancer patients using a template.

Funding will be allocated per practice, rather than per patient, meaning that the pot will be divided 62 ways – approximately £1500 per practice. This will be front loaded, with approximately one third of the funds made available for attending the first meeting, and two thirds of the funds made available on attending the second (after completion of further work in the interim).

£500 meeting one (£325 for GP, £175 for Practice nurse time)  
£500 for Clinical time completing CCR, SEA, letters review  
£500 for meeting two.

Any transformation money allocated that is not used for the cancer scheme will fund a 'Cancer Education Event' in March/April 2019

Macmillan Facilitators:

Dr Maria Earl (Macmillan GP)

Dr Katharine Willison (Macmillan GP)

Mrs Judy Clapp (Macmillan Primary Care Nurse Facilitator)