

University College London Hospitals Cancer Collaborative: Cancer Care Review template

Context

The Cancer Care Review (CCR) is one of the four interventions of the 'Recovery Package'. The Five Year Forward View has an ambition to promote the roll out of the Recovery Package across England. The Recovery Package was developed by the National Cancer Survivorship Initiative (NCSI) in partnership with Macmillan Cancer Support.

The UCLH Cancer Collaborative is one of three partners in the National Cancer Vanguard and incorporates the work of [London Cancer](#), the integrated cancer system for North Central and East London and West Essex. London Cancer aims to implement the Recovery Package for all its patients so this is a priority for local STP footprints, the Vanguard partners in London and the South-East London Cancer Alliance.

The Cancer Care Review is carried out by the GP or Practice Nurse within six months of the practice being notified an individual has a cancer diagnosis. Having a CCR provides the person living with cancer an opportunity to think through their needs and, together with their healthcare professional (e.g. Practice Nurse or GP), make a plan about how to best meet these needs.

Studies suggest that CCRs are currently not being conducted in a systematic and consistent manner within primary care. A key issue that has been identified nationally is there is a lack of clarity and guidance about information that should be covered within a CCR. In London processes and documentation utilised to conduct CCRs are not standardized.

Locally, CCR templates are available on GP IT systems and Macmillan has created a checklist to help GPs in framing a CCR conversation. Neither of these options includes a care plan, which can be perceived as contributing to the variability in patient care and experience as patients will not have a record of actions that result from the CCR process.

Solution

To improve patient experience and outcomes, London Cancer has developed a project to support primary care to deliver high quality cancer care reviews to their local populations. By mirroring how GPs manage other long term conditions, through 'templates' (within the GP software this refers to a digital document that has details relevant to that condition in place which can be completed as needed), London Cancer has produced a template for cancer care reviews.

London Cancer's template allows clinicians in primary care to keep track of the different elements of a patient's recovery. It enables the quick capturing of information about an individual that is relevant and important to them and means the clinicians seeing the patient will have that information at hand to maximise the care/support given to the patient.

The online template is divided into clear sections such as 'treatment consequences' and 'psychological impact' where clinicians can effectively screen for anxiety or depression, thereby making sure no aspect of the person's wellbeing is missed. Additionally, the template links up with the patient's data entered elsewhere, so the clinician can see the latest information such as height and weight, increasing the ability of the clinician to note recent variations or changes. The template also has a check list of common symptoms that may occur during or after cancer recovery, to enable provision of timely rehabilitation and support.

Finally, the Cancer Care Review template contains a 'Care Plan', which is a clear list of actions for the patient to follow, allowing them to feel in control of their recovery.

When the consultation has been completed the Care Plan can be downloaded and given to the patient to take home with them.

This template is an exciting way of implementing the Cancer Care Review and promoting recovery and self-management. It is being rolled out across parts of London Cancer's geographic footprint at present.

Dr Afsana Bhiuya, Macmillan GP Improvement Lead for London Cancer, said 'From diagnosis to treatment, we all know that cancer can be a scary experience, and the NHS supports patients every step of the way. But cancer survival rates are improving, and it's important that we recognise that during recovery patients require support in living well beyond cancer and to self-manage their health. The Cancer Care Review template we have developed supports clinicians to give that crucial help and advice to patients.'

For more information:

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London Cancer. 2016. *Cancer Care Review Template for Emis Web London Cancer Macmillan.*

YouTube: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=drjFy_JTZUo&feature=youtu.be

