

To arrange an **introductory practice visit and needs assessment** with your Facilitator and for further information on the **upcoming *Audit Dissemination Event in November***, please contact:

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Thames Valley Health Professional

Engagement Facilitators

Support for CCGs, Primary Care Teams and Public Health

An innovative role to help strengthen and improve the earlier diagnosis of cancer



Overview

In recent years, repeated studies have demonstrated poorer cancer outcomes in the UK than in comparable countries and cancer survival is well below the European average, especially for those over the age of 75. The Independent Cancer Taskforce (2015) has highlighted six strategic priorities that can radically improve the outcomes that the NHS delivers for people affected by cancer. One of those priorities is to drive a national ambition to achieve earlier diagnosis, which is a key role of the Cancer Research UK (CRUK) Health Professional Engagement Facilitators in the Thames Valley.

Role of your CRUK Facilitator

Three CRUK Facilitators have been commissioned by the Thames Valley Cancer Strategic Clinical Network since April 2014 to work with a range of health professionals including CCGs, primary care and public health teams to strengthen prevention and early diagnosis initiatives. The team bring some extra capacity to the Thames Valley to work with key partners on the early diagnosis agenda. They will work with local stakeholders and health care professionals to tailor the support, information and advice they provide to meet the local priorities and needs and to support change that will lead to improved outcomes.

Support and Guidance to CCGs and Primary Care

The CRUK Facilitator roles offer CCGs and GP practices the opportunity to receive tailored support, guidance and information on areas relating to early diagnosis, screening and prevention, as well as a wide variety of training packages and useful resources. The Facilitators aim to work closely with all key stakeholders such as Public Health teams, the acute trusts, NHS England and Macmillan GP Leads to improve outcomes. Facilitators can help to support collaborative partnerships for all health professionals working within the cancer pathway.

Some of the support and guidance provided include:

NCIN GP Practice Profile – discussion and overview of individual practice profiles from the National Cancer Intelligence Network, bringing together a range of outcomes and process information relevant to cancer in primary care
www.ncin.org.uk/cancer_information_tools/profiles/gp_profiles

NICE Guidelines Support – assisting practices to review the new NICE Guidelines and what they will mean for their practice and patient care pathways

Safety-Netting – bespoke workshops and training packages providing a set of recommendations on what to communicate to patients and steps GPs and practices can take to help ensure patients with potential, but not ‘red flag’, cancer symptoms are followed up

Significant Event Audit – a template to identify reasons for and lessons learnt from a late diagnosis of cancer and training workshops on how to complete and use the audits for best practice

Cancer Information for Patient Groups – a variety of resources and tools to raise awareness and encourage communication for patient groups

Awareness and Early Diagnosis Campaigns – support in raising awareness of the ‘Be Clear on Cancer’ national and regional campaigns, offering posters and other promotional material

Materials and Training Packages – access to a wide variety of resources, materials and training workshops, including TalkCancer, Practice Nurse training and bespoke workshops

Screening Uptake – dedicated support to enhance the screening of bowel, cervical and breast cancer in local areas, providing workbooks, posters and additional resources