

Improving cancer services for local people

Prevention

Quality of Life

Diagnosis

Patient Voice



North East London  
Cancer Alliance

# An introduction to the North East London Cancer Alliance





## Who we are

The North East London Cancer Alliance is part of the North East London Integrated Care System and is committed to improving cancer outcomes and reducing inequalities for local people through better prevention, diagnosis, treatment and quality of life services. We have a [dedicated team](#) of programme and project managers, GP cancer leads and support staff.

## What we do

Whilst not directly responsible for delivering cancer services, we support the the NHS Long Term Plan ambitions for cancer including access to personalised care, mobilising stratified follow-up pathways, and improved early diagnosis and 5 year survival rates.

We work with partners including patients and carers, hospitals, CCGs, GP practices, local authorities and community and voluntary organisations.

## Our programmes of work

### Our priority areas of work are as follows:

- Prevention, awareness and screening
- Diagnosis and treatment
- Quality of life
- Patient voice



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## NHS Long Term Plan ambitions for cancer

By **2021**, where appropriate every person diagnosed with cancer will have access to personalised care, including needs assessment, a care plan and health and wellbeing information and support.

By **2023**, stratified, follow-up pathways for people who are worried their cancer may have recurred. These will be in place for all clinically appropriate cancers.

By **2028**, the NHS will diagnose 75% of cancers at stage 1 or 2 and 55,000 more people will survive their cancer for at least 5 years after diagnosis.



## Prevention, awareness and screening ([visit our web page](#))

- Population awareness • developing videos, online resources and awareness sessions for the NEL population to increase awareness of signs and symptoms of cancer. A big focus on lung cancer awareness.
- Screening • supporting screening services recovery from the covid-19 pandemic. Targeted initiatives to increase uptake and coverage of bowel, breast and cervical screening through reminder calls and outreach services.
- Training for non-clinical practice staff to talk to women about cervical screening started in April 2021, provided by Jo's Trust.
- Youscreen • HPV self-sampling study (Newham and Tower Hamlets).
- Developing a GP Education Strategy and education programme, working with NEL training hubs.





## Diagnosis and treatment ([visit our web page](#))

- Rapid Diagnostic Centres (RDCs) • investigating patients with non-specific symptoms suggestive of cancer, supporting the Long Term Plan strategy to deliver faster and earlier diagnosis and improved patient experience. The Royal London RDC opened in 2019 and the BHRUT RDC opened in May 2021.
- Supporting the opening of the Mile End Early Diagnosis Centre – creating additional diagnostic capacity in Ultrasound, Endoscopy and MRI.
- Timed diagnostic pathways • implementing optimal diagnostic pathways in 4 tumour sites (colorectal, lung, OG and prostate) in line with the Faster Diagnosis Standard (FDS) • a new diagnostic standard that emphasises the importance of receiving a diagnosis or ruling out cancer within 28 days.
- Supporting the NEL Integrated Care System (ICS) endoscopy recovery programme.
- Re-baselining NG12 and supporting full implementation of direct access diagnostics for GPs across NEL.
- C The Signs rollout • artificial intelligence decision making tool to improve the volume, quality and appropriateness of urgent suspected cancer referrals. Being rolled out across all GPs in 5 out of 7 CCGs in NEL.
- Supporting practices to deliver the PCN DES for early cancer diagnosis through developing best practice guidance, improving the sharing of screening data and offering targeted support through the CRUK Facilitators team.
- National Cancer Diagnosis Audit (NCDA) • understanding patient journeys and factors contributing to late diagnosis of cancer. Local support will be available to PCNs from the CRUK Facilitators team to understand their data and develop improvement plans.



## Personalised care ([visit our web page](#))

- Working with GP leads to develop the primary care aspects of the Personalised Care Improvement plans.
- Working with Primary Care to support staff in their role in the delivery of high quality Cancer Care Reviews (CCR).
- Stratified Follow Up - implementing stratified follow up pathways in breast, colorectal and prostate cancers, in line with the Long Term Plan.
- Working with primary care on PSA follow up for stable prostate patients. Working to improve the sharing of care plans and treatment summaries with primary care with a focus on prostate, colorectal and breast.
- Psychosocial - working in partnership with primary care to help staff better understand how to identify psychosocial needs and how to access psychosocial support services for cancer patients (including palliative care referrals).
- Lymphoedema - the London Lymphoedema Community of Practice will work in partnership with primary care to raise the profile and awareness of lymphoedema and how it is managed; with emphasis on early diagnosis, early referral to specialist support and management of cellulitis ([visit our web page](#)).





## Patient and public involvement ([visit our web page](#))

- Working to improve patient experience through embedding the patient and carer voice in alliance work-streams, and improve communications with patients about access to cancer support services available in the community.
- Working with primary care to promote uptake of the national QoL survey, promote awareness amongst staff re: their contribution, and discuss implications of survey results.

### Help shape the future of cancer services in north east London



Apply today for a voluntary role as a patient or carer representative

Email [thccg.pcvc@nhs.net](mailto:thccg.pcvc@nhs.net)  
or phone **07341 134 455**



### Do you have personal experience of cancer as a patient or carer?



Apply today for a voluntary role as a patient or carer representative

Email [thccg.pcvc@nhs.net](mailto:thccg.pcvc@nhs.net)  
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## Patient resources ([visit our web page](#))

A full list of resources is available on our web pages. This includes:

- Animated breast screening video - helps overcome fears of attending screening appointments and explains the importance of attending.  
<https://youtu.be/CkMOOA0RTI4>
- Cancer won't wait for Covid - explains how important it is to get symptoms checked straight away. <https://youtu.be/HxozV0ruXoI>
- Keeping cancer services safe - explains all the measures in place to protect patients from Covid whilst attending cancer services. <https://youtu.be/ZBayrSewju4>
- Resources to support patients with lymphoedema:  
<https://www.eastlondonhcp.nhs.uk/aboutus/support-for-patients.htm>
- Translations of key materials in up to 15 different languages.

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## More information on the NEL Cancer Alliance

Web: <https://www.eastlondonhcp.nhs.uk/aboutus/north-east-london-cancer-alliance.htm>

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