



Welcome

The Network News is produced especially for patients and the public. We hope it provides you with information about work we are currently doing which includes local and national initiatives. It also tells you how you can get involved if you want to.

The aim of the Peninsula Cancer Network is to ensure patients, commissioners and providers of care, the voluntary sector and local authorities with the Network talk and work effectively together to deliver high quality care for the residents of Devon, Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly.

This is supported by the expert advice from over 25 Network Groups, led by clinicians committed to delivering high quality cancer services through their work in our five main acute hospitals, community hospitals and primary care settings.

If you want to keep up to date with developments in cancer care across the Peninsula a good place to start is our website. Papers from all clinical / Board meetings are available including related minutes actions and outcomes.

Please have a browse and let us know what you think

<http://www.peninsulacancernetwork.org.uk/>

Patient and Public Involvement (PPI)

The Network has held a number of PPI events over the last year, which have been working towards the development of a 'Working Group'. At the next meeting in June we hope to decide the role of the Group and its members. It is hoped that the members will define the future blueprint for Patient and Public Involvement across the Peninsula.

The group will comprise of two members from each of the following Local User Groups:

1. **North Devon Link Group**
2. **Royal Devon and Exeter Cancer Service User & Carer Group**
3. **Cornwall and the Isle of Scilly Patient and Carer Group**
4. **Plymouth Cancer Service User Partnership Group**
5. **Torbay User Group**

Also members supporting the Group are Nikki Thomas, Network Nurse Director, Nigel Acheson, Network Medical Director and Gilly Beail, Network User Facilitator.

More information on Patient and Public Involvement in the Network can be found on our website at:

<http://www.peninsulacancernetwork.org.uk/public/PPI/Pages/default.aspx>

Questions about Cancer in Cornwall

A new project has been set up in Cornwall which is supported by Macmillan Cancer Support, Cornwall Council and the Peninsula Cancer Network

The aim of the project is to improve access to cancer information across the whole county of Cornwall and will inform national projects on how to deliver information in rural communities

Information services provided by Macmillan, the NHS and Cornwall Libraries will be promoted to patients, the public and health and social care professionals in the county.

The key questions the project will help to answer are:-

- How can I learn more about the type of cancer I have?
- Who can I speak to about financial advice?
- How can I help someone who has cancer?
- How can I find out about local and national support?
- I am finishing treatment-what happens now?

The Resources currently available are:-

- Macmillan Support Line (0808 808 0000)
- GP Surgeries
- Cancer Books at your local library www.cancerbookreview.org.uk
- Macmillan website www.macmillan.org.uk
- The Macmillan on line community
www.macmillan.org.uk/community
- Information and support at Royal Cornwall Hospital NHS Trust

If you would like more information about this project please visit the website www.peninsulacancernetwork.org.uk or email the project lead, Mark Rawles at mark.rawles@nhs.net

Patient Information and Support Centres

North Devon District Hospital Information Centre

The Information Centre for patients, the public and staff is based at North Devon District Hospital in Barnstaple in the main foyer on Level 2 of the hospital. It stocks written material on a wide variety of health issues, including medical and surgical conditions, healthy lifestyles, benefits and social care.

The Information Centre is open from [9.30am to 4.30pm, Monday to Friday](#). You can also contact the Centre by phone on [01271 314091](tel:01271314091)

The Lodge Cancer Support and Information Centre

Torbay Hospital Annexe, Newton Road, Torquay TQ27BA

The Lodge, is a 'drop-in' Cancer Support and Information Centre and is available for anyone affected by cancer, whether patient, carer or friend.

Access to information and general support services is freely available, with no charge.

Open [Tuesdays – Fridays, 9am- 4pm](#) Tel: [01803 617521](tel:01803617521)

FORCE Cancer Support Centre Exeter

Corner House, Barrack Road, EXETER. EX2 5DW

FORCE provides support to individuals, carers, couples, families, relatives or friends affected by a cancer diagnosis. The FORCE Centre has a well-stocked library where patients, carers and relatives are invited to browse the many leaflets, helpful articles, books to borrow and audio-visual materials as well as having guided internet access.

Open [Mon Fri 9.30 - 4.30pm](#) [Wednesdays open until 7pm](#)
[Telephone 01392 406151](tel:01392406151) for Patient Support

***The Mustard Tree Macmillan Centre Derriford Hospital
Plymouth***

The Mustard Tree, Level Three, Derriford Hospital, Plymouth
PL6 8DH

The Mustard Tree Macmillan Centre has been created to provide information and support for people with cancer, their families and carers. The Centre is located on Level 3 above the Plymouth Oncology Centre at Derriford Hospital Plymouth.

Opening Hours 9.30 - 4.30 pm Mon – Fri Tel No 01752 763672

Joint collaboration of Macmillan Cancer Support and the Citizens Advice Bureau helps Cancer Patients realise their financial entitlement

Phil Pennington was appointed 2 years ago to ensure cancer patients in Devon receive robust advice concerning financial support after diagnosis.

He has been in contact with over 400 people who are coming to terms with cancer. He has provided guidance and access to benefits for patients who are entitled which vary from advice to complex claims which may involve several other specialist support services.

Phil carries out entitlement checks on every family affected by cancer and also provides further practical guidance and signposting to other agencies to help with housing, employment and debt.

He often describes the Benefit system as a complex minefield which demonstrates that his post is even more essential with the impending changes to the Benefit system.

The number of people using the service has proved it has immense value for cancer patients and their families. So much so that a successful bid to Macmillan for an increase in the work-force has enabled 3 more caseworkers to be employed since April to cover North Devon and Torridge, Tiverton and Mid Devon and Phil will now cover North Cornwall, West Devon and Tiverton.

If you would like to know more about this service you can contact Phil Pennington at phil.pennington@cab-bideford.co.uk

NAEDI - National Awareness and Early Detection Initiative Update

Lung Cancer Project: is one of 59 local projects focusing on breast; bowel and/or lung cancer funded by the Department of Health and co-ordinated by the National Awareness and Early Diagnosis Initiative, (NAEDI) and Cancer Research UK.

Lung cancer is the second most common cancer diagnosed in the UK and the leading cause of cancer deaths for males and the second most common for females in the South West. Smoking causes almost 90% of lung cancer deaths.

Survival rates for lung cancer are poor if not diagnosed early. The National target is to reduce mortality rates by at least 20% under 75 years of age including a reduction of the inequalities gap of at least 6%.

For more information visit

<http://info.cancerresearchuk.org/spotcancerearly/naedi/>

South West Regional Bowel Cancer Awareness

The South West, along with the East of England was chosen as pilot sites to run a National Bowel Awareness Campaign. This campaign publicised through media the bowel cancer signs and symptoms to improve the survival rates for bowel cancer in England.

There is evidence to suggest that poor survival rates in this country are linked to later diagnosis. By raising awareness of symptoms of cancer and encouraging the public to visit their doctor with any persistent symptoms it is hoped we will deliver improved survival rates.

The campaign used regional TV, print, online and radio. It targeted those at high risk of bowel cancer and at risk of delaying presentation.

The campaign started at the of January 2011 and ran for 6 weeks

For further information Contact: Annie Sillitoe, Primary & Palliative Care Service Development Manager at annie.sillitoe@nhs.net

Peer Review

The National Cancer Action team have been busy over the past few weeks updating the National Peer Review Programme.

Following requests from Clinicians and reviewers, there has been a resolve to make the Peer Review programme less onerous with more of a clinical outcome focus.

The process will now be streamlined with less of a focus on the annual upload of evidence and more on a quality report by the lead Clinician from each Group.

For this year there are the introduction of new measures for several groups, including Acute Oncology, Brain and Central Nervous system, Sarcoma and Chemotherapy.

All Children's Cancer services across England are to have an External Peer Review this year, for the Peninsula Cancer Network this will be in March 2011. There is an urgent call for any patient representatives who have experienced using Children's Cancer Services to help with the process.

If you are interested or have any other queries about Cancer Peer Review please contact Coral Styles at coral.styles@nhs.net or telephone: 01803 860674

Psychological and Emotional Support Project

The purpose of this Macmillan funded project is to examine the provision of psychological services for all cancer patients, carers and their families across Devon, Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly. The Project aims to identify the current service provision, examine gaps/ redesign opportunities and provide commissioners with recommendations for the future. It also will work with patients and professionals to develop quality outcomes.

This 2 year fixed term post will work with each local health care community – Devon, North Devon, Cornwall, Plymouth and South Devon. It is expected that people will be supported as early on in their cancer pathway, with onward referral to more specialist support as required. There will be improved outcomes following treatment, including, living as well as possible through their cancer journey and beyond.

Susan Benjamin – Project lead, has been funded by Macmillan to oversee the developmental programme and would like to have user input into the developmental programme. Susan will be writing to each of the Chairs of each Local Cancer User Group, to ask for an opportunity to discuss the project and how best to seek users views and input.

The project has the following aims:

1. Patient experience of existing services, identifying areas of good practice and areas for improvement.
2. Complex mapping of existing psychological support across cancer & non-cancer services (secondary, primary, voluntary sector).
3. Identifying existing referral pathways (psychology & psychiatry) for each organisation
4. Publish a directory of existing services on the Network website
5. Working with all key stakeholders to design future services. To include assessment tools, referral guidelines, patient pathways and quality outcome measures.
6. Forming robust and sustainable partnerships with all mental health providers/ commissioners.
7. To examine the implementation of 'Improving Access to Psychological Therapy' (IAPT) and the role/ suitability for cancer patients.
8. Developing an option appraisal/ service redesign report for the commissioners to identify any additional investment required to implement the 4-level model across the Network.

For more information on this project contact Susan Benjamin, on 01803 860666 or susan.benjamin@nhs.net

Survivorship

It is now more than 10 years since the Cancer Plan was written. The cancer story is changing, services are improving and mortality is falling. This means that we need to think differently about how we support the ever increasing number of people living with and beyond cancer. This has been nationally called 'survivorship'. The Department of Health and Macmillan Cancer Support published the National Cancer Survivorship Initiative Vision in 2010 which can be seen in full at www.ncsi.org.uk

About 1.6million people in England have had a diagnosis of cancer. By 2030 there are likely to be over 3 million people living with or beyond their cancer. Cancer is a fact of life for many people, not just a disease to be overcome or survived but something that many of us live with and work with on a day to day basis.

The National and Network vision is that cancer survivors are supported to live as healthy and active a life as possible for as long as possible

Network News

For patients and the public

How do we do this?

To improve patient care and support, 5 key shifts in delivering care and services must happen. These are:

1. **Cultural shift in the approach to care and support. Greater focus on recovery, health and well-being after cancer treatment.**
2. **Shift towards assessment, information provision and personalised care planning.**
3. **Shift towards support for self-management.**
4. **Shift from a single model of clinical follow up to tailored support that enables early recognition and preparation for the consequences of treatment or signs of further disease.**
5. **Shift towards measuring experience and outcomes for cancer survivors.**

Since the vision was published, organisations from health and social care have been testing new and challenging concepts, creating guidance for the future.

The outcomes of these test-sites can be seen in more detail at <http://www.ncsi.org.uk/test-communities/test-communitiescomplete/>

Key priority for the future:



It's Everybody's Business
Living Well with and Beyond Cancer

SAVE THE DATE
21st July 2011
Buckfast Abbey, Devon

WE ARE MACMILLAN.
CANCER SUPPORT

Peninsula Cancer Network 

The network is holding a 'Survivorship' conference on the 21st July 2011 to raise more awareness. This will not just focus on health professionals and managers of hospitals but also people who provide services in the community including GP's, local employers, council workers and other agencies.

We hope that this will help set the priority for work in the future.

Report Shows Excellent Standards at a New Centre for Cancer Surgery

The oesophago-gastric service was centralised at Derriford Hospital in January 2010. This means that patients from all over Cornwall, Devon and the Isle of Scilly are referred too Plymouth where there is a full team of surgeons and other specialist staff to run a 24/7 service.

A detailed analysis of the centre's first year of work from January 2010-December 2010 shows very positive results in terms of both patient satisfaction and low mortality rates.

80% of the 129 patients treated felt the overall service had been excellent with a further 13% describing it as good and 6% as average.

Mortality rates were low, 1.1% for 95 patients undergoing oesophagectomy (4.5% nationally) and 5.7% for 35 patients undergoing a gastrectomy (6% nationally).

The results were welcomed by the Peninsula Cancer Network Board which had requested the report to provide assurances on all aspects of the new service in its first year.

Nigel Acheson Consultant Surgeon and PCN Medical Director said

"These are very encouraging results from a new service. It's clear that patients are being given the best possible chance of surviving and recovering from a serious condition"

This was further supported by Anthony Farnsworth the PCN Chair who said

"What we need to do now is make sure these high standards are maintained and, where possible improved, and that all possible care apart from the highly specialised surgery continues to be offered locally"

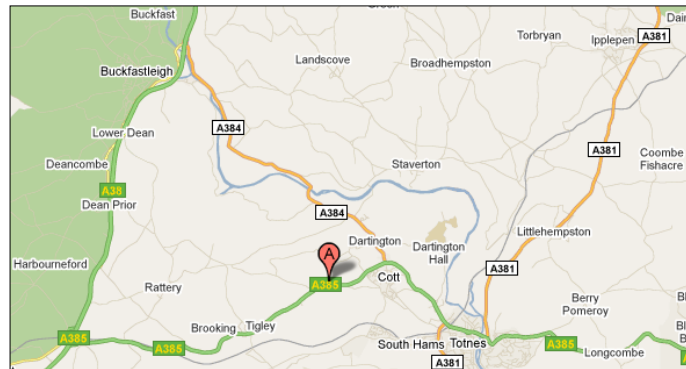
If you would like to read the full review it can be found at:

<http://www.peninsulacancernetwork.org.uk/networkinfo/executive%20board/Pages/2011%20March.aspx>

Thank you

We hope you have found this Newsletter useful, the next Newsletter will be produced in the autumn and items of interest would be welcomed e.g. cancer book reviews, local initiatives to share with others across the Network.

If you would to provide any news or information please contact Gilly Beail Patient and Public Involvement Lead at gilly.beail@nhs.net or telephone 07825027605



Contact Us

Peninsula Cancer Network
Dun Cross
Yarner
Dartington
Totnes
Devon
TQ9 6DX
Telephone 01803 860668
Fax: 01803 860678

Email: askaquestion@peninsulacancernetwork.co.uk

Web: <http://www.peninsulacancernetwork.org.uk/>