

Cheshire and Merseyside Primary Care Bulletin

Autumn 2021

Non Specific Rapid Diagnostic Service (NSRDS)

This service is for patients who present with Non Specific Symptoms or the GP has a gut feeling there is a underlying malignancy that doesn't meet the NG12 Criteria for an Urgent Suspected Cancer Site Specific pathway. The referral criteria includes:

- New unexplained and unintentional weight loss (either documented >5% in three months or with strong clinical suspicion),
- New unexplained constitutional symptoms of four weeks or more (less if very significant concern), symptoms include loss of appetite, fatigue, nausea, malaise, bloating,
- New unexplained vague abdominal pain of four weeks or more (less if very significant concern),
- New unexplained, unexpected or progressive pain, including bone pain, of four weeks.

The referral is classed as an Urgent Suspected Cancer Referral and the current Cancer Waiting time Targets are applied to this pathway. We ask that prior to the referral Primary Care carry out a suite of core investigations (if clinically relevant): CXR; Urine; FIT; FBC; ESR and/or CRP; U&E with eGFR; LFTS (including globulins); TFTS; HBA1c; Bone; CA-125 (Women); PSA (Men).

The service is currently available at: Liverpool University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust (Royal site); Warrington and Halton Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust; St Helens and Knowsley Teaching Hospital NHS Trust; Southport and Ormskirk NHS Trust; Mid Cheshire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust; and, Countess of Chester Hospital NHS Foundation Trust.

Services are current being developed for: Liverpool University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust (Aintree); Wirral University Teaching Hospital NHS Foundation Trust; and, East Cheshire NHS Trust. For further information please contact sarah.griffiths16@nhs.net

Resources for primary care which support the PCN DES and QOF QI are available on our [website](#)

Health Inequalities and Patient Experience

Cancer Quality of Life Survey

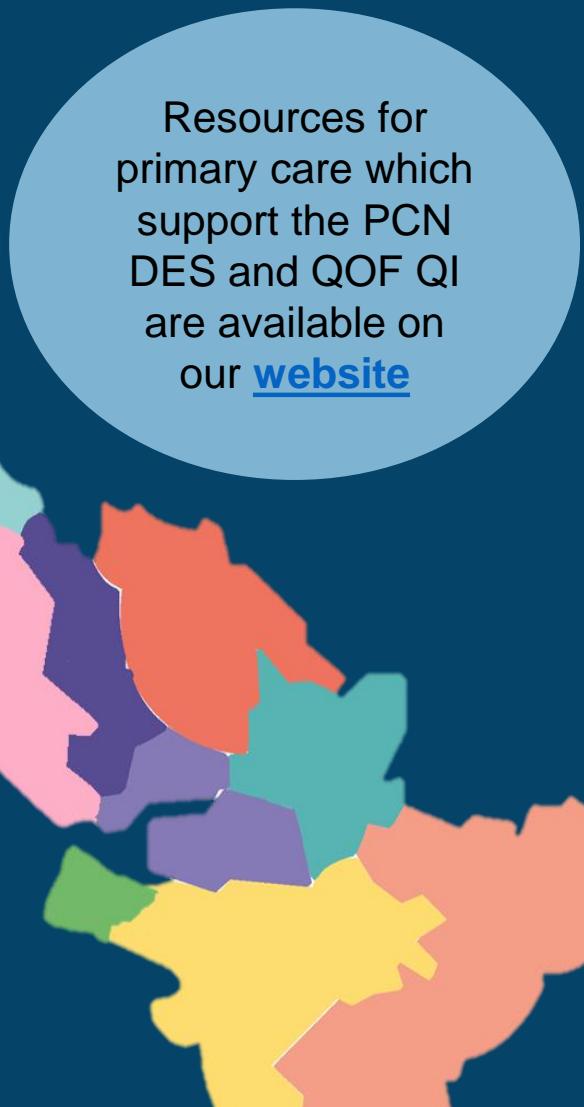
The Cancer Quality of Life Survey [dashboard](#) was launched in October 2021. This is a national rolling survey which is sent to patients 18-months post-diagnosis.

To ensure the results accurately reflect our cancer population a communications toolkit, and variety of resources, can now be found on our [website](#).

This piece of work has since been picked up by the British Medical Association, and is included in their [Health Inequalities Toolkit](#) as an example of good practice. Please do take the time to read our latest [blog](#) explaining the importance of the survey, and continue to use and share the toolkit and resources, as we all have a responsibility to reduce inequality and ensure the patient's voice is heard. For further information please contact ellie.gunner1@nhs.net or jo.trask@nhs.net

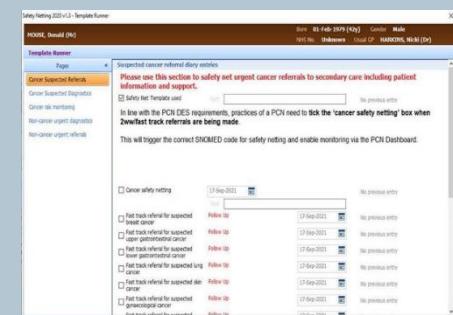
Resources to address health inequalities

Further resources to address health inequalities have been uploaded to our [website](#).



Safety Netting

Cheshire and Merseyside Safety Netting Template 2020 (C&M SNT) has been developed to provide Primary Care with a robust and auditable e-process for safety netting within the clinical system:



As this is a quality improvement project, it is crucial we capture feedback on the C&M SNT to ensure this resource remains relevant and fit for purpose to our local geography.

We would really appreciate you taking the time to complete an evaluation survey (less than 5 minutes). Please click [here](#) to complete.

News from the Alliance:

- [TV documentary visits Liverpool to highlight pancreatic cancer - 'Britain's Hidden Killer'](#)
- November is Pancreatic Cancer Awareness Month. Resources can be found [here](#).

