

Interim Clinical Board

The Interim Clinical Board recently mandated the establishment of the LCA Radiotherapy group. Within the groups remit, LCA activity and demand will be considered for issues including national targets. The inaugural meeting will be held on 13 September and terms of reference are currently being developed.

The LCA, in collaboration with National Cancer Intelligence Network (NCIN), is hosting a clinical forum on 10 September (details at the end of the bulletin) to ensure that all existing Tumour Working Group Leads are fully briefed on the future governance arrangements and responsibilities, roles and relationships within the LCA.

The LCA is hosting a Workshop on 2 October in partnership with NCIN and Thames Cancer Registry (TCR). The event will focus on raising awareness and understanding the implications of, and readiness for, the implementation of a clinical outcomes dataset across the LCA. Full details of this event can be found at the end of this bulletin.

The National Cancer Patient Survey Results were recently published for 2011. The Interim Clinical Board is reviewing the results to develop an LCA approach in response as well as supporting individual providers in developing action plans for improvement in the coming year. The Department of Health have confirmed the survey will be repeated in 2012. Patients attending provider trusts as an inpatient or a day case between now and December may be asked to fill in a survey for 2012.

Since the last bulletin, the Clinical Board has considered two major items in detail. The first is a analysis of past cancer activity and projected growth across London to understand the activity and financial implications of implementing changes in the mode of care for patients with cancer. Members of the Clinical Board are actively involved in this work going forward as it is of great importance to the cancer system. The second item is a comprehensive public health/primary care paper from the Public Health and Primary Care Sub Group of the London Cancer Review on the best strategy for promoting early diagnosis. This paper is an excellent insight into what the commissioners might require of us in the future and the type of service we should seek to deliver.



**Professor Arnie Purushotham,
Joint Clinical Director (Interim)**



**Mr Justin Vale,
Joint Clinical Director (Interim)**



**Cally Palmer
Chief Executive Group Lead**

News from the Chief Executive Group

I am pleased to announce that all 17 provider organisations to the London Cancer Alliance have now completed and signed up to the LCA prospectus and Memorandum of Understanding. We are now able to move forward to the next stage of work as the integrated cancer system for south and west London.

The recruitment process for the three key positions of Chair of the Members' Board, Chair of the Clinical Board and Clinical Director is underway. An independent interview panel is being established and the recruitment and appointment process should be completed by mid September.

The LCA website is currently being developed and it is hoped this will go live from early October.

Pathway groups

Acute Oncology Services

Interim chair: Tom Newsom-Davis, Consultant, Medical Oncology, Chelsea & Westminster NHS Foundation Trust

- The AOS pathway group has been awarded Macmillan funding to take forward the two acute oncology teaching courses and one refresher course for 2012 and 2013. The first course is planned for the autumn.
- Work has continued on the DH funded pan-LCA audit of patients whose cancer is diagnosed as part of an emergency admission. The project steering group met for the first time on 19 July. The project plan has been refined and the project is due to start in September.
- Work continues on the development of the AOS metrics dataset. This work is now supported by Stephen Scott, LCA Senior Cancer Informatics Lead. A meeting took place in late August to finalise the metrics and data collection template.
- A final draft of the LCA amalgamated AOS guidelines has been completed and is due to be signed off by the AOS pathway group in September. Following this meeting the final guidelines will be rolled out across the LCA.

Survivorship

Interim chairs: Nick Hyde, Cancer Clinical Director and Consultant Surgeon, Oral & Maxillofacial, St George's Healthcare NHS Trust / Natalie Doyle, Nurse Consultant, Living with and beyond cancer, The Royal Marsden NHS Foundation Trust

- A date has now been confirmed for the Survivorship Forum attendees include service users, nurses, therapists and others who have a key role to play in delivering the survivorship agenda.
- Two dates have been set for Holistic Needs Assessment (HNA) training. This will be open to CNS' and other relevant professionals. It will focus on shared learning and problem solving. Places will be limited, so watch out for further information.
- Key LCA Holistic Need Assessment (HNA) paperwork will be circulated in the coming month, including an agreed tool and a rationale paper.
- Both the survivorship constitution and LCA survivorship metrics have been agreed by the Interim Clinical Board. We will work with each locality on how the data for the metrics can be collected.
- Work is underway on mapping the availability of survivorship services across the LCA to provide an essential overview of services availability. We will then work with users to establish the priority areas to address.

Oesophago-Gastric

Interim chair: Bill Allum, Consultant upper GI surgeon, The Royal Marsden NHS Foundation Trust

- Pathway group meetings were held in early July and early September, where the approach to responding to the surgical recommendations of the model of care and succession planning were discussed.
- The pathway group now has user representation as well as new palliative care and radiology representation
- The existing network clinical guidelines were reviewed and amalgamation agreed
- The priorities identified by the group at their May meeting (in the form of priority standardised service standards) were signed off and assessed.
- Draft standards have been submitted for a deliverability assessment
- Proposed LCA governance for TWG future was reviewed and a position to feedback to clinical board TWG leads event agreed. A number of risks and issues were raised.
- The OG pathway group discussed GP to unit and unit to centre referral pathways and agreed the following initiatives pending LCA approach to funding initiatives:
 - Redesign symptomatic referral guidelines / proforma and pilot in suitable catchment area
 - Support individual projects underway in primary care, for example, the roll out of Wandsworth PCT pilot

- Identifying risk assessment tools to assist GPs (particularly for treatment of patients who do not meet 2w criteria but have measurable risk)
- Informal audit at select units to gather more evidence of best practice referral pathways and cost effectiveness assessments
- Specifying a LCA wide approach to (a) pathways for patients with a negative endoscopy but persistent symptoms and (b) risk measures for further investigation (e.g. referral to CTs for dyspepsia patients)

Breast

Interim chair: Nicky Roche, Consultant breast surgeon, The Royal Marsden NHS Foundation Trust

- The pathway group has been awarded Macmillan funding to take forward two pan LCA breast cancer study days and networking events over 2012/2013. The aim of the days are to support engagement and shared learning across all LCA breast MDTs.
- A mapping event is underway to collate membership and contact details of all LCA breast MDTs. This information will facilitate contact and engagement with MDTs. It will also help individual trusts to share information and best practice across MDTs.
- Work continues on the baseline audit and priority breast cancer clinical metrics. This work is now supported by Stephen Scott, LCA Senior Cancer Informatics Lead.
- The breast CNS sub-group have drafted a detailed work plan for prioritised areas which include benchmarking the process of 23hr discharge and mapping of lymphoedema services.

Palliative care

Interim chair: Nigel Sykes, Medical Director and Consultant in Palliative Medicine, St Christopher's Hospice

- Maureen McGinn has joined the LCA as Palliative Care Pathway Project Manager.
- The Specialist Palliative Care (SPC) audit tool was finalised and disseminated across LCA SPC providers at the end of July. The deadline for return is 30 September. This tool will also be used by the Palle8 group, enabling pan-London analysis and comparison of services.
- The group is coordinating collection of completed audit forms and has been working with individual SPC teams to follow-up dissemination and completion.
- Following the June meeting with NCAT, and the Pan-London SPC meeting in July, NCAT have agreed to delay SPC Peer Review until February 2013, while the measures are reviewed further.
- The pathway group chair is continuing to work with LCA providers to discuss peer review issues and ensure good representation from clinical leads at this forum.

Lung

Interim chair: Liz Sawicka, Divisional director and consultant in emergency care & specialist medicine, South London NHS Trust

- The lung pathway group is working with Thames Cancer Registry to improve staging completeness across the LCA.
- The group will be visiting the Trusts to identify the data sources/feeds that exist and the issues associated with linking these with TCR. It is hoped this will enable more accurate reporting of staging data completeness.
- Following the surgeons meeting, attended by representatives from each of the LCA Surgical Centres, a series of quality measures and metrics were developed against which the quality of a service could be measured. These are now being developed into a draft metrics/quality scorecard that will measure quality across the entire pathway. This work also includes devising a process for ongoing data capture, measurement and how this will be used to develop the lung pathway across the LCA.
- Additional data has been collected from each centre to further analyse resection rates, population and activity trend analysis following the surgeons meeting in June. This was used, along with the existing data and validation that had been obtained, to develop the first draft of the Thoracic Surgery Report in response to the Model of Care, focusing on MDTs, resection rates per surgeon and the number of Lung Surgical Centres in the LCA. The draft report has undergone consultation with the LCA Thoracic Surgical Centres and will be presented to Clinical Board.
- The pathway group successfully applied for funding to hold bi-annual lung stakeholder/education events and to develop a Lung CNS Forum. The aim of the CNS Forum is to develop consistent working practices/improvement across the LCA. It is intended that both events will enhance networking and cross organisation working beyond sector boundaries. These events will be held over 2012 and 2013.

LCA/NCIN/TCR Cancer Outcomes and Services Dataset (COSD) Workshop

Tuesday 2 October, 09.30am – 12 midday

Gascoigne Suite, Union Jack Club and Waterloo Conference Centre, Sandell Road, Waterloo, London, SE1 8UJ

A joint workshop between LCA, NCIN and TCR aimed at cancer managers, cancer information leads and senior MDT co-ordinators is scheduled for the 2 October.

The purpose is to:

- raise awareness of the Cancer Outcomes and Services Dataset (COSD)
- investigate the implications of implementing the COSD across London Cancer Alliance providers
- feedback on providers' state of readiness
- discuss the challenges and issues and agree the way forward

If you are a cancer manager, cancer information lead or senior MDT co-ordinator and would like to attend, please confirm by contacting Anrike Van Der Galien, LCA PA, at Patolca@rmh.nhs.uk

National Cancer Intelligence Network (NCIN)/Tumour Working Group (TWG) Forum

Monday 10 September, 6-9pm

Roben's Suite, Guys Tower, Guy's Hospital

A joint forum between NCIN and LCA has been organised on the 10 September 2012 at Guys Hospital. This forum will focus on the impact of the Cancer Outcomes Services Dataset on Clinical practice, and future working between LCA Pathway Groups, TWGs and MDTs. This will include speakers from NCIN, Thames Cancer Registry and the LCA.

If you are a TWG Chair and would like to attend the forum, please confirm by contacting Victoria Harrison at Victoria.Harrison@rmh.nhs.uk

For further details on the LCA please contact the LCA project administrator Victoria Harrison at victoria.harrison@rmh.nhs.uk

