

London Cancer Acute Oncology Service (AOS) Expert Reference Group 2017-18

Introduction

London Cancer incorporates the geographical areas of North Central and East London and West Essex with a population of 3.7 million. Since 2016, *London Cancer* has become one of the six principal programmes of the UCLH Cancer Collaborative.

London Cancer includes Tumour Pathway Boards and Expert Reference Groups (ERGs), each led by a Clinical Director. The purpose of the AOS Expert Reference Group is to be the primary source of clinical advice for AOS to Tumour Pathway Boards and other Expert Reference Groups.

The ERG's membership includes multi-disciplinary representation from cancer professionals across the region and active participation from primary care and from patients. The ERG has a duty to promote equality of access, choice and quality of care for all patients within *London Cancer*, irrespective of their individual circumstances. The ERG also works with cancer commissioners to provide expert opinion on the design of any commissioning pathways, metrics and specifications.

The AOS ERG incorporates a Malignancy of Unknown Origin (MUO)/Cancer of Unknown Primary (CUP) subgroup which meets prior to the main ERG meeting and has different but overlapping membership and agenda. Furthermore, particular emphasis is given to the Metastatic Spinal Cord Compression pathway with its implementation and related issues as a regular item on the ERG's meeting agenda.

Achievements this year

Over the past year, working as part of the national Cancer Vanguard within the New Care Models programme of NHS England, the ERG has focused on collaborative working and networking.

Our key achievements have been:

- Holding an MUO/CUP network/pan-London education and networking event in November 2017 which had broad representation from both multi-disciplinary hospital teams and the GP community.
- Completed and presented the Cancer of Unknown Primary (CUP) guidelines at the above mentioned education event held November 2017.
- The positive rehabilitation work being done by the MSCC unit at RNOH was presented and supported by the network.
- The ERG continues building upon the work being done based on multi-centre audits, while clinical trials, where applicable, will be pursued in collaboration with other ERGs. Results would be subsequently published and/or presented in national/international meetings.

Patient representation

UCLH Cancer Collaborative brings together hospital trusts, GPs, health service commissioners, local authorities and patients across north and east London and west Essex.



Dr Ekaterini Boleti, AOS ERG Director, Consultant Medical Oncologist at Royal Free London

The ERG works hard to support patient involvement where possible and is currently focusing on standardising patient information.

Future plans

In 2018/19 we will build on our work through increased collaboration with pan London AOS and CUP services. Our work plan is outlined below.

No	Objective	Owner	By
1	Work with pan-London colleagues/TCST to standardise the MUO referral pathway	EB/TCST	December 2018
2	Network communication and education: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - hold MSCC education and networking event - develop network education resources - Primary Care education event 	EB/SW	Autumn 2018 Autumn 2018 Autumn 2018
3	Audits <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Complete MSCC audit and present significant outcomes - Conduct audit of number and outcomes of referrals to the CUP/MUO MDT meeting 	EB EB	July 2018 June 2018
4	Research – clinical trial recruitment and use of North Thames CRN data to drive improvement and cross-sector working	EB	Ongoing
5	Use Patient experience data and insight to improve services and patient information	EB	Ongoing

Acknowledgements

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