

London Cancer Brain and Spine Tumour Pathway Board Annual Report 2016-17

Introduction

London Cancer is the integrated cancer provider system formed in 2012 to cover the geographical areas of North Central and East London and West Essex, population of 3.7 million.

London Cancer was integrated into the newly formed UCLH Cancer Collaborative in September 2016, as one of six key work programmes.

The Brain and Spine Tumour Pathway Board, led by Jonathan Pollock, is responsible for driving improvement across the whole care pathway in a specific cancer type. The Board's membership includes multi-disciplinary representation from cancer professionals across the region and active participation from primary care and from patients. Jonathan Pollock is now set to leave his post; invitations to become the new director will shortly be released.



The role of each pathway board is to understand any variation in practice and set standards that take advantage of planning whole pathways of cancer care for a large population. This drive to improve cancer care for patients covers an integrated care pathway that extends from presentation and diagnosis through to palliative care and living with and beyond cancer.

We have encouraged wide consultation in the last six months regarding the optimum design of reconfiguration of brain cancer services across two, rather than three centres. This has involved further assessment of the effect of future reconfiguration on the Trauma Service at Royal London Hospital and on the increasing population base in the East of London and in West Essex. We have explored a model with centres in Central and East London supported by high quality multidisciplinary teams. The delivery of a new model of care will be greatly assisted by our improving data collection to assure the quality of service for the future.

Achievements this year

2016/17 has seen the Brain and Spine Tumour Pathway Board become part of the newly formed UCLH Cancer Collaborative. Working as part of the national Cancer Vanguard within the New Care Models programme of NHS England this has enabled access a broad range of expertise to start to fix long standing problems especially around collection of metrics that are useful to brain and spine.

This year we have had a focus on reconfiguration of services, patient experience and improving quality and collation of data.

Our key achievements have been:

- Continue work to transition neuro-oncology surgical services from three centres to two.
- Scoped how we might pilot stratified follow up amongst our acoustic neuroma patients.

- Closely partnered with the Centre for Cancer outcomes to develop a unique brain and spine performance dashboard.

Future plans

In 2017/18 we will build on our work through improving quality of GP referrals, stratified follow up and revision of guidelines. Our work plan is outlined below.

No	Objective	By
1	Audit 2ww referrals to advise our GPs which patients should be referred on an urgent pathway.	March 2018
2	Move through gateway 4 of the neuro-oncology surgical services transition.	Overdue
3	Pilot stratified follow up for acoustic neuroma patients.	March 2018
4	Work with MICA to improve access to rehabilitation services.	March 2018
5	Update clinical guidelines for oncology and surgery.	March 2018
6	Work with Centre for Cancer Outcomes on roll out of dashboard for all our Trusts.	March 2018

Acknowledgements

We would like to thank all the members of the Brain and Spine Tumour Pathway Board for contributing their time to Tumour Pathway Board meetings and projects outside the meeting.