**London Cancer Breast Cancer Tumour Pathway Board Annual Report 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 programme of the UCLH Cancer Collaborative.

The Breast Cancer Tumour Pathway Board is a cancer specific board led by Dr Rebecca Roylance, Tumour Pathway Director. Its membership includes representation from cancer professionals across the region and active participation from primary care and from patients.

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.

This has been another very busy and productive year for the board, continuing to focus on improvements in the patient pathway and equitable access to services. I am immensely grateful for the engagement of the board members without whom this work would not be possible.

**Achievements this year**

This year we have had a focus on understanding and reducing the variation that our patients currently receive across the breast cancer care pathway, including encouraging and supporting trusts to work together to build resilience in to the pathway. There has been a continued focus on the metastatic pathway of care, treatment closer to home and stratified follow up for patients who have completed treatment. We have submitted evidence to the All-Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) on Breast Cancer Inquiry into geographical inequalities and subsequently been asked to speak to the APPG on this topic.

In the latter part of the year, we have been undertaking an audit of Vinorelbine usage (a chemotherapy drug), reviewing genetics guidelines for breast cancer patients and updating the timed pathway. The breast cancer nursing forum has continued to be very active under the leadership of Claire Mabena.

Our key achievements have been:

- Consideration of MDT Improvement report and initiation of a subgroup to implement recommendations in breast cancer MDTs
- Working with Pfizer to complete a report on Metastatic Breast Cancer Pathway Redesign with improvements to the metastatic pathway seen in all of our trusts. The work undertaken by the UCLH Cancer Collaborative formed one of the case studies in the Breast Cancer Care report on Current best practice in secondary breast cancer (published March 2018)

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

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Read our blog at www.uclh.nhs.uk/cancerblog
• Continuing to work with the Chemotherapy Expert Reference Group, industry partners and commissioners to develop an agreed pathway for patients to self-administer denosumab (a drug used for management of bone metastases)
• Ongoing work with individual trusts to implement stratified Follow Up
• Audit of services offered: Vinorelbine (chemotherapy) and risk reducing mastectomy
• Gaining consensus and publicising guidance on Radiology, Radiotherapy and Chemotherapy
• Planning for a network education event to be held July 2018
• Ongoing work with NCL Trusts to address gaps identified in Gap Analysis carried out in January 2017 including support to Whittington and UCLH collaboration
• Updating the timed pathway which provides guidance on key pathway milestone dates to ensure 62 day cancer waiting time compliance
• The Breast care nurses forum is a subgroup of the Breast Pathway Board. 2017-18 key achievements have been;
  o An audit by breast care nurses on improving prosthetics service provision for patients across the network found that the service has made great improvements however there are still areas for development which the forum will continue to monitor
  o Standardising information in relation to Lymphoedema prevention and early detection across the network
  o Introduction of frailty assessments for older patients with breast cancer for an improvement programme at Princess Alexandra Hospital

Patient representation
In 2017/18 we have benefited from three patient representatives on the board. Lesley Cousins and Patricia Dean continued in post and we welcomed back Deborah Glover who was previously a board member from 2012 to 2014.

"Working with the Breast Cancer Tumour Pathway Board has been invaluable for me as a breast cancer patient. Returning to the Board after a break of two years was slightly daunting, but I was welcomed back by all.

It was both satisfying and reassuring to see that the projects were either completed or being taken forward and that real change had been made. For me, one of the most positive changes has been as a result of the work undertaken to ensure that the ‘one-stop clinic’ experience across the region is as stress-free and as positive as possible. This was a project that did not require a great deal of resources, rather some small changes to routine and information giving. It was a living reflection of this Board’s commitment to improving the patient experience and meeting 2-week wait targets.

For me, it is a privilege to be a member of this welcoming and inclusive Board, and I appreciate the opportunity to provide the patient voice."

Deborah Glover, Patient Representative
Future plans

In 2018/19 we will build on our MDT Improvement work, continue to support the Whittington and UCLH collaboration and continue our focus on the metastatic pathway. Our work plan for 2018/19 is outlined below.

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<tr>
<th>No</th>
<th>Objective</th>
<th>Owner</th>
<th>By</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Improve the metastatic pathway in order to reduce variation including: - Sharing learning from Enhanced Supportive Care pilots - Holding an event to share best practice - Improve access to clinical trials and data capture</td>
<td>Rebecca Roylance</td>
<td>December 2018</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Implementation of Early Breast Cancer Stratified Follow-Up Pathway and Recovery Package</td>
<td>Sharon Cavanagh</td>
<td>March 2019</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Addressing the gaps against the London Cancer service specification</td>
<td>Rebecca Roylance</td>
<td>March 2019</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Audit and service improvement to include an audit of the Risk Reducing Mastectomy MDM</td>
<td>Rebecca Roylance</td>
<td>September 2018</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>Improve research and access to clinical trials for early breast cancer</td>
<td>Rob Stein</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>Develop a collection of metrics, including patient reported surgical outcomes to monitor the progress of the board</td>
<td>tbc</td>
<td>March 2019</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>Breast care nurses forum to improve on current performance across the network on the overall metrics i.e. Living with and Beyond cancer - Review of resources in place for CNS succession planning by the Breast care nurses forum</td>
<td>Claire Mabena</td>
<td>March 2019</td>
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Acknowledgements

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

Particular thanks to our patient representatives Lesley Cousins, Patricia Dean and Deborah Glover who have generously given up their time to contribute.