

REDUCING INEQUALITIES IN CANCER SCREENING FOR PEOPLE WITH LEARNING DISABILITIES



North East and Cumbria
**learning
disability**
network

Welcome

Welcome to the Cancer Screening and Learning Disabilities Project update.

The project aims to improve the offer and access to the three cancer screening programmes for people with a learning disabilities.

Through this update we aim to keep you informed of what we are doing and our future hopes and plans.

We would also like to share good practice and ideas that you may have in improving services.

Finally to make you smile on this cold grey March day I have put in a link to [the poo song](#), this was produced by NHS Scotland and is an excellent little

ditty. It might spark some ideas to help raise awareness of bowel screening during April which is bowel cancer awareness month.

Save the date

**Tackling the inequality –
cancer screening and learning disabilities.
A sharing and learning event.**

Date: Monday 27th June 2016

Location: Bede Tower, Burdon Road, Sunderland SR2 7EA



New letters to support GP's

The cancer screening learning disability project have produced new easy read letters to support GP practices who wish to contact their patient that have not completed the bowel screening FOBt home test kit, replied to an invitation for bowel scope screening or attended a breast screening invitation.

If you would like copies of the letters please get in touch with Julie Tucker



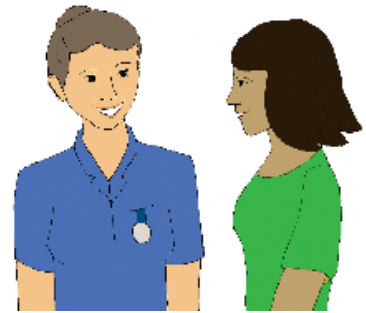
Bowel cancer screening - steps forward

From the very start of our work looking at improving cancer screening for people with a learning disability we were aware that being able to identify people at the point of invitation to screening would be key.

The North East and Yorkshire Bowel Cancer Screening hub have been working with us and are now ready to start testing a pathway which will help flag individuals prior to invite and use the flag to inform the individuals GP, community team and the screening centre. We are starting this exciting work in South Tyneside and aim to take our learning and offer the service wider, including feeding back to the National Bowel Cancer Screening Learning disabilities work group.

Cervical screening support materials

As part of the Cancer screening learning disabilities project we have recently developed a cervical screening support materials for use in general practice. The pack has been adapted from a piece of work initially completed in Cornwall. It includes; advice on making best interest decisions, suggestions to help a woman's understanding, a sample easy read invite letter and a sample parent/carer letter explaining the importance of screening. If you want more information get in touch with Julie Tucker.



Macmillan Improving Cervical Screening Uptake—Pink letters

Macmillan Cancer Support are working with Northumberland CCG to improve the uptake of cervical screening. The Pink Letter project is engaging with GP's to contact patients who did not respond to their screening invitation.

To support our population of women who have a learning disability the project has produced an easy read Pink Letter, the letter is supported by a video "Josephine Goes For Her Smear Test". Josephine is a life sized anatomically correct cloth woman used as an interactive learning aid for working with women who have a learning disability.

We hope that this project will raise awareness of the importance of screening for all women including those with learning disabilities and help them make an informed decision about attending their cervical screening appointment.

For more information contact Su Boyd, Macmillan Project Lead, Tel:- 01670 335193 Email:- suboyd@nhs.net

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CANCER SUPPORT**


**Northumberland
Clinical Commissioning Group**

If you have any questions about the project, thoughts or examples of good practice please get in touch
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