

Joint Working Executive Summary

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Project title	Joint Working project to reduce the inequality of access for prostate cancer patients through extended nurse service provision.
Project partners	Clatterbridge Cancer Centre NHS Foundation Trust and Bayer Plc
Project summary	Patients with a diagnosis of metastatic prostate cancer have multiple needs that are currently not being met by current service provision. Having access to specialist cancer supportive services such as a clinical nurse specialist and holistic needs assessment, can improve experience and quality of life. The role of a Cancer Nurse Specialist is to be a key point of contact for patients and their family throughout the treatment course and will provide psychological support and symptom/toxicity management advice. Furthermore, the addition of two new cancer nurses will mean more patients have access to a CNS which will facilitate equity of provision and improve overall patient care. The aim of the project is to address inequality of care for prostate cancer patients by recruiting two new WTE (whole time equivalent) cancer nurses. Clatterbridge will fund one nurse and Bayer the other. The addition of two new cancer nurses will mean more patients have access to a CNS which will facilitate equity of provision and improve overall patient care. Furthermore, the project aims to: Relieve capacity from Clinical Oncologists and reduce the number of ad hoc requests to consultants through the nurse service conducting holistic needs assessment which will inform and signpost referrals appropriately. Make specialist cancer nurse services available to all patients through the addition of two new nurses who can provide end to end care. Facilitate optimal patient management by working collaboratively across the system and enhancing patient experience.

Expected benefits to patients, the NHS and Bayer

Expected benefits for patients:

- Aims to resolve variation in access to cancer nurse services and standardise care for prostate cancer patients across Cheshire & Merseyside.
- Aims to improve patient experience and optimise treatment options through health needs assessment and referral management and offering education around treatments and support with managing toxicity.
- Aims to manage increasing demand from new referrals through a new and enhanced patient pathway that includes the addition of two Cancer Nurses and improve patient compliance/concordance with cancer treatments.

Expected benefits for the NHS:

- Aims to reduce clinical Oncologist time through redefining a clear care pathway for patients that includes a key contact with the cancer nurse service.
- Aims to reduce unnecessary referrals to Oncologists and multi-disciplinary teams through co ordinating care and appropriate referrals.
- Aims to improve quality standards for Clatterbridge Cancer Centre and comply with best practice recommendations through increased access to cancer nurse services.
- Aims to improve patient compliance/concordance with cancer treatments.

Expected benefits for Bayer:

- Enhanced reputation and credibility with a leading cancer centre in the Northwest of England.
- Gain further understanding of prostate cancer services that can be shared as best practice examples with other cancer centres.
- Increased access to cancer nurse services will support increased assessment of
 patients and support patient compliance with treatment and treatment
 satisfaction through delivering education around treatments and support with
 managing toxicity.

Start date

June 2024

Date of Preparation: May 2024

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