

## **Update from the National Targeted Lung Health Check Stakeholder Event – 23 May 2019**

This event, attended by Primary, Secondary and Tertiary Care and other key stakeholders in North Kirklees, provided an opportunity to find out more about the National Targeted Lung Health Check Programme and to get involved in shaping the implementation of targeted Lung Health Checks in the area.

Targeted Lung Health Checks are part of the NHS Long Term Plan and the North Kirklees area was selected as one of 10 CCGs with high levels of smoking, lung cancer mortality and deprivation. The primary focus of the programme is the early identification of Lung Cancer leading to stage shift in diagnosis, from stages III/IV to stages I/II and is being supported by West Yorkshire and Harrogate Cancer Alliance.

In addition to earlier the identification lung cancer, patients will benefit from the early identification of undiagnosed COPD and other respiratory conditions, plus smokers will be offered smoking cessation support. Patients may also be offered an NHS Health Check to assess CVD risk. .

Professor Sean Duffy, Programme Clinical Director and Alliance Lead, West Yorkshire and Harrogate Cancer Alliance, provided an overview of the programme, with Sarah Sowden, Respiratory Lead for NHS North Kirklees CCG highlighting what being part of the national programme means for North Kirklees. Dr Narajan Chandra, Cancer Lead, NHS North Kirklees CCG set out some alternative models of Lung Health Check delivery and Simon Oliver, Cancer Care Transformation Project Manager, NHS Mansfield and Ashfield CCG and Newark and Sherwood CCG provided an insight into the Nottingham Lung Health Check Programme and key learning from it.

Professor Sean Duffy said: “This work is so important as it focuses on one of our biggest health problems. By working together we can help people with their smoking addiction, improve their lung health and at the same time be able to diagnose cancer of the lung at a stage that could be curable.”

Simon Oliver, Cancer Care Transformation Project Manager, NHS Mansfield and Ashfield CCG and NHS Newark and Sherwood CCG, who had talked about the programme in Nottingham said: “The Nottingham Lung MOT project has unquestionably saved lives by picking lung cancers early in a high risk population. Practices have played a pivotal part in service design, promoting the service to their patients and on the ground delivery”.

The presentations were followed by stakeholder discussions around what model would work in North Kirklees. The outcomes from these discussions were fed back at the event and will also be considered at forthcoming planning meetings for this initiative.

Dr Natarajan Chandra, Cancer Lead, NHS North Kirklees CCG said: “North Kirklees being selected for this programme is very exciting news for us as clinicians as this gives us a great opportunity to identify early diagnosis of lung cancer and other chronic respiratory conditions. It also provides a chance for the health care professionals involved in this program to offer smoking cessation advice and treatment, as well as promote the engagement of other screening programmes, including breast and bowel cancer screening, to the relevant patients.”

He added: “As the primary care networks are evolving, this is a great time for the local GP practices to engage and deliver services most effectively through them.”

The Roy Castle Lung Cancer Foundation has produced a short film of a powerful patient case study, which highlights the importance of the Lung Health Check and it can be [viewed here](#).

Patients aged between 55 and 75 who have ever smoked (Smokers and, Ex Smokers will be identified for entry into the Lung Health Check programme using GP practice data.