

Living with and beyond cancer

Background

RM Partners is committed to supporting individuals living with and beyond cancer (LWBC) across west London and improving their experience and outcomes. We are working collaboratively with pan-London strategic partners in order to understand services and agencies that can improve the support available to enable the best quality of life for people affected by cancer.

There are currently considerable differences in the support individuals receive during and after their cancer treatment, so we aim to ensure that all patients who have cancer receive all of the components of the Recovery Package to support their health and wellbeing, with the aim of reaching a target of 70% by 2020.

Approach

The Independent Cancer Taskforce published the Cancer Strategy for England in 2015. Recommendation 65 was that NHS England should accelerate the commissioning of services for patients living with and beyond cancer, with a view to ensuring that every person with cancer has access to the elements of the Recovery Package by 2020.

The Recovery Package has four components:

1. A Holistic Needs Assessment (HNA)
2. A Treatment Summary completed at the end of each acute planned treatment phase, copied to the patient and GP.
3. A Cancer Care Review completed by the GP or practice nurse to discuss the person's needs within six months of the GP practice being notified that the person has a cancer diagnosis.
4. Health and Wellbeing Events. These are educational sessions that aim to prepare to support individuals to live actively and well post treatment. We are aware of significant variation in adoption and quality of these interventions and are collecting data to establish a baseline.



Our project encompasses all acute Trusts across west London to help them improve their support for people affected by cancer. Implementation of the Recovery Package is instrumental and all 10 Trusts are progressing with this.

In addition RM Partners is working to facilitate the increased uptake of eHNAs rather than paper versions, to enable Trusts to access the rich data from their eHNAs with support from the RM Partners informatics team. This data on patient concerns can help to plan services and address unmet needs for people living with and beyond cancer.

Achievements

- All of our Trusts are submitting quarterly data for our Recovery Package metrics
- We exceeded over 70% of patients having an HNA within 31 days of diagnosis for the first time in Q2 2017/18
- We have completed the National Baseline Survey by NHS England with responses from all Trusts in our area
- We are holding co-design events with our Patient Advisory Group which has an LWBC sub-group

For more information

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