TVCA stakeholder bulletin. Issue 114: 29 May 2025

Thames Valley Cancer Alliance

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National news

FIT@80 Programme – Next Phase Launched

NHS England is inviting regions to express interest in lowering the Bowel Cancer Screening FIT threshold from 120 µg/g to 80 µg/g, in line with National Screening Committee recommendations.

This change aims to detect cancers earlier and improve outcomes. Eight early adopter sites are testing how best to deliver the new threshold, with most already live.

Regional teams will coordinate the process with local services.

For enquiries, please contact: **paul.fleming8@nhs.net**

NHS Jewish BRCA Testing Programme now live

Launched on 16 May, this NHS programme offers retrospective genetic testing (R208/7 panels) to people previously diagnosed with:

- High-grade non-mucinous epithelial ovarian cancer

- Triple negative breast cancer
- Bilateral breast cancer

Although eligible under the National Genomic Test Directory, many have not yet been tested. Invitations will be sent directly to patients by post.

If patients ask in practice, advise they will be contacted if eligible.

Please direct any queries to the **programme hotline: 020 3437 6001.**

More info: **england.edcancer@nhs.net**

Retrospective genetic testing pilot now open

Launched on 16 May, this pilot offers genetic testing to women previously diagnosed with:

- High-grade non-mucinous ovarian cancer
- Triple negative breast cancer
- Bilateral breast cancer

The aim is to identify people at higher genetic risk and offer access to screening and treatment. Around **14,500 people** will be tested over three years.

Questions? Contact **susana.lukic@nhs.net**

NHS cervical screening programme webinar

Join this **lunchtime webinar** on **Thursday 12 June, 12–1pm**, for key updates on:

- Screening interval changes for ages 25–49
- Digital invitation and result letters
- HPV self-sampling
- Transgender and non-binary opt-in workforce
- Updates from the Cervical Screening Administration Service (CSAS)

Register for NHS cervical screening webinar here

Get involved in Volunteers' Week 2–8 June 2025



Volunteers' Week is a UK-wide campaign celebrating the vital contributions of volunteers. Now in its 41st year, the initiative highlights the diversity and impact of volunteering across communities and services.

This year's refreshed branding encourages continued engagement and recognition. It's a great opportunity to thank current and past volunteers for their invaluable support in healthcare and beyond.

Find out more and get involved via the NHS Volunteering webpage: **https://volunteering.england.nhs.uk/volunteer**

You can also see how to get involved locally through our TVCA webpage: **Get Involved**

Place updates



Berkshire West Cancer Champions (BWCC)

The BWCC are organising an in person cancer awareness event for the Nepalese community, in partnership with Hexham Community Centre.

The event will take place on **Saturday 31 May 2025**, from **2.30pm-5.30pm** at Hexham Road Community Centre, 1A Bamburgh Cl, Reading, Berkshire, RG2 7UD

The event will be a good opportunity to interact and share information with the local community.

Training and events

Macmillan Community of Practice (CoP) for GPs – launching July 2025

Open to GPs and GP trainees UK-wide

Macmillan is launching a new **Community of Practice (CoP)** – a national network offering support, learning, and peer connection for GPs and trainees across the UK.

What to expect:

- A safe, supportive environment
- Bi-monthly webinars via MS Teams
- Expert-led discussions on cancer and wider primary care topics
- Opportunities for peer learning and resource sharing

Launch Event: Wednesday 16 July 2025, 1.30–2.30pm via MS Teams

Guest Speaker: Professor Richard Simcock
Chief Medical Officer, Macmillan Cancer Support & Consultant Oncologist, Sussex NHS Trust. Topics include:

- Macmillan's new strategy
- Breast cancer updates for GPs
- HRT and breast cancer in primary care

Join COP here

Clinician engagement session – genetic testing in central & south

Central and South Genomics invites you to a virtual Clinician Engagement Session on **Wednesday, 4 June 2025**, from **12:15pm to 1:15pm** via Microsoft Teams.

The session will focus on the revised service model for genetic testing in the Central and South region and seek your input on key indicators for a safe and effective service to be monitored under the new model.

Please share this invitation with your clinical networks and encourage Cancer Alliances to circulate it to their Expert Advisory Groups.

For questions, contact: gmsaadmin@uhb.nhs.uk

Genomics session here



Communication Skills Development

Professional development opportunity for clinical health and social care professionals to enhance communication with teenagers and young adults with cancer and their support networks.

This online session on **Thursday, 26 June 2025,** will cover the unique communication needs of young cancer patients and their families, including:

- Rapport building
- Triadic communication
- Foundations of HEEADSSS assessment
- Delivering difficult news
- End-of-life care conversations
- Responding to emotions

Comms skills: register here

New e-learning: diagnosing breast cancer in Black women

A new 30-minute e-learning module, developed by NHS England and the Royal College of General Practitioners, is now available for GPs.

The module covers:

- Risk factors and diagnostic delays in Black women
- Cultural and social barriers to care
- Real-life case studies to support culturally sensitive practice

Designed to improve awareness and support earlier, more equitable diagnosis.

Access module here

Teenage and Young Adult palliative care study day

Join us for a face-to-face study day exploring key topics in Teenage and Young Adult palliative care, including:

- Joint working
- Symptom management
- TYA case studies
- Advance care planning

- Palliative care discussions

Refreshments and lunch provided

When: Thursday 12 June 2025, 9am - 4.30pm

Where: Wessex Heartbeat Centre, University Hospital Southampton, SO16 6UY

Contact Wendy Spencer with any queries: Wendy.Spencer@uhs.nhs.uk

Register for TYA day here

Lung Cancer Webinar – 4 June 2025

Join Dr Anne-Marie Baird, a leading expert in lung cancer research and science communication, for a practical online webinar on:

When: **Wednesday 4 June 2025, 1–2pm (via MS Teams)**

This session will support clinicians, researchers, and healthcare professionals in understanding and evaluating peer-reviewed publications in lung cancer research.

More information and registration: *Microsoft Virtual Events – Powered by Teams*

Register for lung cancer webinar here

Pride month and cancer care



June is Pride Month – a time to highlight the importance of inclusive cancer care for LGBTQ+ individuals, who may face unique barriers such as discrimination and lack of tailored support.

Healthcare professionals can help by using inclusive language and offering respectful, person-centred care.

. Organizations like **Blood Cancer UK**, **Macmillan Cancer Support**, **Young Lives vs Cancer**, and **Cancer Research UK -**

Cancer News are actively working to ensure inclusive and equitable cancer care for LGBTQ+ individuals.







If you have a TVCA Bulletin article you would like to share, just get in touch with us at: **bobicb-bw.tvca.bulletin@nhs.net**

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