



NEW LOOK AND NAME CHANGE

PLEASE NOTE OUR NEW
CHANGE OF NAME AND LOGO
AS ABOVE!!

NATIONAL MDT CO-ORDINATORS

3RD MARCH 2010

RENAISSANCE HOTEL
HEATHROW, LONDON



- S**
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T
- M - Meet new and existing colleagues
 - D - Discuss current challenges
 - T - Targets, you are not alone
 - C - Come and share ideas
 - C - Come and make a difference

The Value of MDT Co-ordinators and their Role:

Modern healthcare requires a functional team approach to patient management to help deliver high quality care and nowhere is this more important than in patients with cancer. If our patients are to receive timely and appropriate treatment that meets the ever increasing number of government targets; then a patients' often tortuous path through the healthcare jungle needs to be coordinated and mapped.

The IO Guidelines have helped develop a new and pivotal role in the management of patients with cancer. The MDT coordinator has grown over the last 10 years from nothing to the single most important member of the cancer team. None of us involved in the management of patients with cancer would be without our MDT coordinators, you should see the toys leave the cot when they go on holiday and nobody is provided to step up to the mark!

In my 25 years in the NHS I have never seen a role develop so quickly into such an important position in such a short time. The job description might be woolly, the pay crap, the management support lacking but we love our MDT coordinators!

Mr Simon Bramhall
Consultant HPB & Liver Transplant Surgeon
Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Birmingham.

The National Cancer MDT Coordinators Forum

The Cancer Reform Strategy has highlighted the role of the MDT Coordinator and is now perceived as a key and core member of the multidisciplinary team and meetings. This has given us the opportunity to restructure ourselves to make sure we have representation from all parts of the UK, and are able to ensure good lines of communications between the local MDT coordinators and ourselves thus bringing in 'Key Changes Proposed to the Infrastructure'; The proposal therefore has been to create 13 geographically based, 'cancer network clusters', based around each of the 3 non-English countries (Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales) and the 10 English Strategic Health Authorities (SHAs).

Each region has been asked to nominate a representative for their area to join the team and to facilitate communication to all local MDT Coordinators, via cancer networks and local trusts. The members of this group are very committed to developing the roles of the MDT Coordinator and the remit we have within patient care.

We are currently looking for representatives in the North East, London, East of England, Yorkshire & Humber and Scotland.

**Juanita Asumda – Chair
Network Cancer Services Coordinator**

NETWORKING

"I was invited to present at an MDT Study Day which was run by the Local Roche Team on the 16th October 2009. Co-ordinators from across the GMCCN and MCCN Networks were invited to share good practice between colleagues and highlight gaps in their services. The whole day was successful with presentations from speakers who were involved with the day to day running of MDTs and knew the importance of collaborative working. The presentations started with a "fun session" with delegates trying to interpret what clinical abbreviations around the breast pathway meant. An impressive high number of teams - scored high - mainly coordinators/trackers, but the surgeon only scoring an impressive "LOW"! Overall delegates wanted to develop their role and all were keen to engage in further events either locally or nationally. Feedback since has highlighted areas where improvement would be beneficial, mainly around team working with strong leadership, and acknowledgement of the coordinators role and what it incorporates:

**Angela Heer
Stockport NHS Foundation Trust**

4. MISSION STATEMENT

As the National Cancer MDT Co-ordinators Forum, we provide a national voice to inform, support and motivate fellow co-ordinators, to bring professional recognition to the role and contribute to improving the patient pathway.

Current Work streams:-

- MDT Co-ordinators Conference – 2010
- Recruit new members to the National MDT Forum Group **on-going**
- MDT Co-ordinator / Cancer Registries Qualification/training qualification - **To be updated at the National MDT Conference – March 2010**
- Identify and establish further regional MDT co-ordinator meetings – **on-going**
- Address and expand communication links through out the UK – **on-going**
- Regular articles in the Cancer Action Team Magazine – **continually on-going**
- Developing the 'MDTC Forum Group website **Is now set up and running.....NCIN.org.iuk** – Tumour sites then MDT co-ordinators
- To further develop and maintain links with Networks which will ultimately aid the support of MDT Co-ordinators Nationally - **On-going**

Please forward any articles or projects that you are involved in and are proud to share to:

Diane.wilkes@rwh-tr.nhs.uk

YOU could be just the person we are looking for:

1. **Do you enjoy being an MDT Cancer Co-ordinator?**
2. **Would you like to make a difference to the role?**
3. **Can you see yourself working with other Co-ordinators to promote the role nationally?**
4. **Are you someone who enjoys a challenge?**

If you have answered 'Yes' to the questions above the MDT Taskforce Group has vacancies in the following regions and would love to hear from you:

- **Yorkshire and the Humber – covering the Yorkshire and Humber and Yorkshire Coast CNs**
- **East of England – covering Anglia, Essex and Mount Vernon CNs**
- **Scotland**
- **London – covering North London, NE London, SE London and West London CNs**

Please e-mail juanita.asumda@nhs.net or any Forum members giving a few brief details about yourself and your current role.

MDT EFFECTIVENESS

MDTs are the core model for cancer service delivery and there are around 1500 MDTs in place around England..

The National Cancer Action Team has introduced a project that will focus on how these MDTs are working. In particular it will seek to:

- identify the characteristics of an effective MDT;
- consider how MDTs can assess themselves against these characteristics;
- develop a programme to support MDTs to achieve and maintain these characteristics.

A questionnaire was sent out in Feb-Mar 09 seeking views on MDT working to inform this project and 6 workshops were held in May to seek further views. Over 2000 MDT members responded to this questionnaire including over 300 MDT co-ordinators.

A summary of the findings from the survey plus the full data analysis can be found at www.ncin.org.uk/mdt

Key messages include:

- MDT members need dedicated time for preparation & attendance at meetings;
- good leadership is a prerequisite for a good MDT;
- dedicated MDT meeting rooms should be the gold standard with robust and reliable technology;
- MDTs need support from their Trusts.

The next steps will be to:

- issue the characteristics of an effective MDT based on the survey findings;
- issue a DVD on MDT working to highlight the impact of poor working practices, poor working environments; poor technology and unhelpful behaviours;
- pilot approaches to self assessment and feedback with a small number of MDTs to inform any future national programme;
- identify potential areas where MDTs may need development or support;
- develop a toolkit which includes examples of local practice related to MDT working.

If you think your MDT might be interested in taking part in pilot work next year or if you have any templates, proformas, checklists, protocols etc that might be suitable for inclusion in the toolkit

please contact: cheryl.cavanagh@gstt.nhs.uk

National Cancer Action Team

National Qualification/Training Programme

Coming Soon!

Dear Colleagues,

My name is Lynne Newbury. I represent the UK-wide MDT Co-ordinator's Forum on the National Steering Group looking at providing a National Training programme for people just like you and me, non-medical staff who work in highly specialist cancer areas. Supporting MDTs and collecting and using data to improve clinical outcomes. I can certainly remember the early days as a new MDTC when I was thrown in at the deep end and asked to take minutes at a Cancer MDT meeting. Oh my goodness, that sinking feeling when you haven't got a clue what the Consultants and medical staff are talking about!

A number of issues have been recognised since those days and most significantly, that the MDT Co-ordinator role is the focal point of the MDT and that there is a requirement to gain specialist knowledge and skills to undertake this role.

Now the future looks very different. An amazing and exciting opportunity to provide a consistent and standardised National Training Programme for non-medical staff has been proposed.

A National Steering Group was set up, overseen by the NCIN, whose membership includes representation from across the UK by the following groups: MDTC Forum (UK), NCIN (UK), Cancer Registries (UK), Cancer Networks (England), NCAT (England), DH (Workforce England)

The Steering Group commissioned Tribal (training provider) to undertake a scoping project which aimed to support the delivery of a universal UK-wide training course for non medical staff working in Cancer Services and Cancer Registries.

Tribal conducted a baseline assessment exercise to help us gain a clearer understanding of training requirements and to subsequently develop options for providing an accredited training programme. As well as face to face meetings, a telephone questionnaire was used which some of you would have been involved. The people questioned came from a wide background and knowledge and included:

MDT co-ordinators and members of MDTs
Cancer registry staff
Clinical coders
Trainers and managers

The Steering Group has now received the final report from Tribal. The overall messages in the report are extremely positive and definitely achievable and the group will now review the report and consider the implications for implementing such a course across the UK. Tribal identified the modules that should be delivered, along with different ways that such a course may be undertaken by students, such as face-to-face, e-learning, webinars, etc.

Also, available options have been explored to enable all who take the course to gain a UK wide accredited qualification. The benefit of properly trained and qualified group of staff working in this area will hopefully soon become a reality.

This is an exciting development and a huge step forward in terms of training provision which I hope you will all welcome. The NCIN (Final) Report is available on the NCIN website.: NCIN.ORG.UK

Lynne Newbury

EVENTS & CANCER DIARY 2009 /2010

National MDT Forum Meetings 2010

Last meeting was held: Thursday 28th and Friday 29th January 2010

National MDT Conference 3rd March 2010

Further 2010 dates to be confirmed.

Cancer Awareness Calendar 2010

- March**
- Prostate Cancer Awareness Month
 - Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month
- April**
- Bowel Cancer Awareness Month
- June**
- Everyman Male Cancer Awareness Month
 - UK Myeloma Awareness Week
- October**
- Breast Cancer Awareness Month
- November**
- Lung Cancer Awareness Month
 - Pancreatic Cancer Awareness Month

If you have any events taking place that you already know of for 2010 please email me and I will include in the newsletter: Diane.wilkes@rwh-tr.nhs.uk

EVENT pages can also be found on the NCIN.org website

<p>Juanita Asumda – Chair Network Cancer Services Coordinator Royal Surrey County Hospital NHS Foundation Trust Juanita.Asumda@royalsurrey.nhs.uk Region Covered: South East Coast; Surrey, West Sussex & Hampshire CNs</p>	<p>Serena Hodges – Vice Chair Upper GI Services Coordinator University Hospitals Bristol NHS Foundation Trust Serena.Hodges@UH Bristol.nhs.uk Region Covered: South West; Peninsula, Dorset, Avon Somerset & Wiltshire CNs</p>	<p>Diane Wilkes – Marketing & Deputy Vice Chair MDT Coordinator The Royal Wolverhampton Hospital NHS Trust Diane.Wilkes@rwh-tr.nhs.uk Region Covered: West Midlands; Greater Midlands, pan Birmingham, Arden, 3 Counties CNs</p>
<p>Sue Hughes Cancer Services Coordinator/ Manager North West Wales NHS Trust Sue Hughes2@wales.nhs.uk Region Covered: Wales; North Wales, South East Wales and South West Wales CNs</p>	 <p>“As the National Cancer MDT Coordinators Forum, we provide a national voice to inform, support and motivate fellow coordinators, to bring professional recognition to the role and contribute to improving the patient pathway.” Making a Difference Together</p>	<p>Patricia Hewitt MDT Coordinator University Hospitals, Coventry and Warwickshire Patricia.Hewitt@uhcw.nhs.uk Region Covered: East Midlands; East Midlands and North Trent CNs</p>
<p>Margaret Fleming MDT Coordinator The Western Trust Maragaret.Fleming@wetsrentrust.hscni.net Region Covered: Northern Ireland</p>		<p>Angela Heer Cancer Services Manager (MDT) Stockport NHS Foundation Trust Angela.Heer@stockport.nhs.uk Region Covered: North West; North of England, Merseyside & Cheshire and Greater Manchester & Cheshire CNs</p>
<p>Anna Peart MDT Coordinator Team Leader Heatherwood and Wexham Park Hospitals Anna.Peart@hwph-tr.nhs.uk Region Covered: South Central; Central South Coast, Thames Valley CNs</p>	<p>Di Riley Associate Director, Clinical Outcomes Programme National Cancer Intelligence Network & National Cancer Action Team Driley@nhs.net</p>	<p>Lynn Faulds Wood – British Television Presenter President, National Cancer MDT Coordinators Forum President, European Patients’ Coalition Lynn’s Bowel Cancer Campaign – www.bowelcancertv</p>

<p>VACANCY YOU</p> <p>Region Covered: North East; North of England CN</p>	<p>VACANCY YOU</p> <p>Region Covered: East of England; Anglia, Essex, Mount Vernon CNs</p>	<p>VACANCY YOU</p> <p>Region Covered: Scotland; Board 1, Board 2 and Board 3 CNs</p>	<p>VACANCY YOU</p> <p>Region Covered: London; North London, North East London, South East London, South West London and West London CNs</p>	<p>VACANCY YOU</p> <p>Region Covered: Yorkshire & The Humber; Yorkshire, Humber & Yorkshire Coast CNs</p>
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USEFUL WEBSITES:

www.cancerimprovement.nhs.uk/mdt.

www.cancer.nhs.uk - cancer plan.

www.ukacr.org – UK ass. of Cancer Registries

www.dh.gov.uk/waitingtimes www.NCIN.org.UK