



Shropshire & Mid Wales
Cancer Forum

Notes of Meeting 12th April 2016

Attendance: Sian, Rachel, Colin, Clare, Sue, Jessica, Julia, Rob, Roger, Adele (Shropshire Healthwatch)

Apologies: Irene, Vicky (Macmillan), Angie

As a patient with Cancer, did you know- this needs to change to A5 to fit in the display holders around the hospital.

Non emergency transport – This has been requested as an agenda item for Telford & Wrekin, Health Roundtable. Adele explained that if Healthwatch received written details of the problem they could investigate. They need written details to build up evidence of a problem

Shropshire healthwatch – Adele advised that they now have the Independent Complaints Advocate process under their remit, this service is available for any Shropshire resident or anyone receiving treatment at the Royal Shrewsbury hospital. Patients receiving treatment or living in Telford and Wrekin need to contact Staffordshire Healthwatch as they won the contract for providing the support in Telford & Wrekin.

Milton Keynes Cancer patient journal /experience survey the hospital have decided not to take this further, the general agreement was that the survey was too cumbersome.

Hospital food – following last months discussion on the availability of appropriate food for patients with non standard diets, for example gluten intolerance the PIEP have been contacted (as it affects all patients, not just cancer patients).

Post meeting note. A meeting has been arranged with a PIEP member and the hospital

Digital health programme There is a pilot for chemotherapy patients about to start where patients will record daily temperature and other symptoms on an app. Any that are outside the 'normal' range, the patient will get a message to contact the hospital, if the patient does not ring within 30 minutes the hospital will phone the patient, similarly if details are not recorded the hospital will call the patient. The aim is to reduce unnecessary travel for patients, to catch and prevent neutropenic sepsis by providing early anti biotics. For patients who do not have access to appropriate technology, smart phone, pc they will continue with the monitoring already in place.

There is a second pilot for prostate patients, this will be software that will remind patients when a blood monitoring test is due, this is carried out at their local GP, patient then tells the software it has been done, they get a message when blood results are ready and then have a choice of results in either a face to face meeting, telephone call, video call or even where appropriate for the patient they can see the results directly online. It was asked if this could happen for Watch and Wait patients as well. This is a possibility. It is currently with a software

company for initial development and the next step will be a demonstration to evaluate and appraise.

Lung cancer support programme – currently in the process of evaluating feedback to date. Consideration is being given to reducing from 4 sessions to 2 sessions of longer length to reduce travel, car parking for patients. To have sessions in Telford as well as Shrewsbury. For Upper GI patients to join the programme.

St Georges buddy scheme has finished in December. Any action plans are now being monitored by Cancer Services. The hospital is hoping to train non medical staff with communication Skills (this had to be put on hold due to winter pressures).

Health & wellbeing events – Jessica was aware that events were being planned, but she had no definite details to share.

Outreach event – much discussion on the possibility of running an outreach event to raise awareness of cancer information, support, rights. Telford was the suggested venue as no events have been held there. The football ground was suggested as it may encourage men to come.

Suggestions for talks on Fatigue; diet and nutrition; exercise and travel insurance.
Suggestions for stands; benefits; Red Cross; Healthwatch; Macmillan information & support centre, Kim for Exercise; Hamar centre; free treatments via look good, feel better and or boots
No 7 beauty advisors; Odyssey, support groups and ourselves
Day of the week Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday
Time: 11 – 1

Action, view some venues & check availability & prices

Apologies for next month from Julia

NEXT MEETING: TUESDAY 14th June 2:30, HAMAR CENTRE, ROYAL SHREWSBURY HOSPITAL, SHREWSBURY