

RESPECT-21

Reorganising specialist cancer surgery for the 21st century: a mixed methods evaluation

PROJECT NEWSLETTER No. 7

December 2017

Welcome to the seventh RESPECT-21 newsletter, updating you on our study and telling you about the team.

HIGHLIGHTS

- **NEW PAPER COMING SOON:** latest findings to be published in British Journal of Surgery - details below
- **Sharing our findings** at relevant meetings
- **Meet the Team:** we shine the spotlight on one of our patient representatives, Patrick Fahy

NEW PAPER COMING SOON:

Findings from our survey on how cancer surgery services should be organised

The following paper has been accepted for publication in the **British Journal of Surgery**:

Vallejo Torres L, et al. "Discrete choice experiment to analyse preferences for centralising specialist cancer surgery services." BJS (2017)

In this paper, we present the findings from a survey designed to evaluate what factors matter most to patients, health professionals, and members of the public when they think about centralisation of specialist cancer surgery.

It was completed by **444 individuals** (206 patients, 111 health professionals, and 127 members of the public, across England).

What we found:

Collective **top priorities** were:

- reducing risk of complications and death plus access to specialist MDT.
- easy access to centres carrying out more operations, with more specialised teams and surgeons.
- everyone wanted shorter travel time, but this was the least important of all the factors we covered.

We hope to be able to share the paper with you in the New Year!

PROGRESS UPDATE

We are continuing qualitative data collection (interviews and observations) in London and Greater Manchester:

- In **London** we have carried out 74 interviews with NHS and non-NHS employees and have observed 55 meetings related to the planning, oversight and provision of cancer services.
- In **Greater Manchester** we have carried out 21 interviews with people involved in planning and supporting the centralisations and have observed

56 meetings.

- And we have made good progress analysing these interviews and observations to see what is involved in planning and implementing large-scale changes in health services. We will be discussing these interim findings at our upcoming Study Steering Committee meeting in January 2018 (more info below).

The 8th meeting of our **Research Strategy Group** will be in December 2017 and our **Study Steering Committee** will meet for the second time in January 2018. These meetings are important as they bring together the team with a group of patient representatives, clinicians, commissioners, and researchers to discuss study progress and interim findings, and plan the next steps of the research.

SHARING OUR FINDINGS

London Cancer Pathway Boards

On the 6th of December, **Prof Naomi Fulop** and **Prof Steve Morris** presented the study at the Clinical Leadership Meeting and the Joint Pathway Directors, Operational and Clinical Leads meeting.

They covered – the study design, findings from our survey on the factors that matter most when organising cancer surgery services and findings from the qualitative study of planning and implementation in the reorganisation of cancer surgical pathways.



SHARING OUR FINDINGS

Pathway Directors and Cancer Clinical Forum, Greater Manchester



Prof Ruth Boaden gave a presentation to the Pathway Directors and Greater Manchester Cancer Clinical Forum on 12th of October. She presented the findings from our survey and talked about early findings from the qualitative study of the centralisation of services in Greater Manchester.

There was lively discussion among the audience, which included clinicians, commissioners, and representatives from cancer charities.

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| <p>MEET THE TEAM</p> | <p><i>This month - meet Patrick Fahy, one of our Patient Representatives/Advisors.</i></p> <p><i>Patrick tells us a little bit about his background, how he became involved in RESPECT-21 and his thoughts on the study:</i></p> <p>I am a 67-year-old retired accountant. Three years ago, I was diagnosed with prostate cancer and underwent a radical prostatectomy. Since then, I have been receiving hormone manipulation therapy for secondary cancer.</p>  <p>Two years ago, I accepted an invitation from Lucie Francis to become a volunteer with Greater Manchester Cancer Vanguard and I have spoken at several events to other patients and their carers, clinicians and GPs. I discovered that my involvement with different groups within the Vanguard program gave me an insight into my own situation and that of my fellow sufferers which, in a strange way, has been a great comfort to me, both psychologically and emotionally.</p> <p>It was through this involvement with the Vanguard program that I was recently offered the opportunity to be a patient representative on the RESPECT-21 project. I was pleased to find that my views as a patient representative are valued by the professionals involved and I have been encouraged to speak up and to question as I see fit, within what I feel is a most worthwhile project.</p> <p>While I have no professional research project experience and, in the two meetings that I have so far attended, I have not yet contributed in any significant way, I believe that it is important that the views of patients are available to decision makers and I look forward to my offering greater input as time goes by.</p> |
|  | <p><i>Article on how we developed our survey on how cancer services should be organised</i></p> <p>In this article, we explain how we involved patients and clinicians in the design of the survey, wording of the questions and early piloting. This article can be useful for other researchers designing similar surveys through participatory and engaging processes.</p> <p>We hope this article will be published in the coming months!</p> |
| <p>PROJECT SUMMARY</p> | <p>North Central and North East London and West Essex (population 3.2million) and also Greater Manchester (population 3.1million) are all working to reduce the number of hospitals providing specialist surgery for a range of cancers.</p> <p>The RESPECT – 21 research team are studying the proposed changes focusing on changes to bladder and prostate, kidney and oesophago-gastric (OG) pathways.</p> <p>We are using various research methods to study changes in the way specialist cancer surgery services are organised and provided in London and Greater Manchester.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - We will assess key processes in the London and Manchester service |

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| | <p>centralisations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - We will also look at the impact on care processes and outcomes, and the cost and cost-effectiveness of the changes. The impact on staff and patients will be explored, and we will study people's preferences in relation to centralisation. - Finally, we will consider the implications for future reorganisation. |
| FUNDING | <p>This whole project is funded by the National Institute for Health Research Health Services and Delivery Research Programme (project number 14/46/19).</p> |
| DISCLAIMER | <p>The views and opinions expressed therein are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect those of the Health Services and Delivery Research Programme, NIHR, NHS or the Department of Health.</p> |
| FURTHER INFORMATION | <p>If you'd like to know more about RESPECT-21, or have ideas about what you'd like to see in this newsletter, please contact</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ① Prof Naomi Fulop, Chief Investigator (n.fulop@ucl.ac.uk) ① Dr Angus Ramsay (angus.ramsay@ucl.ac.uk, tel 020 3108 3239) <p>Please visit the RESPECT-21 project website for the latest news and links:</p> <p> https://www.ucl.ac.uk/dahr/research-pages/RESPECT_21</p> <p> We are on twitter! Please follow us on @Respect21Cancer</p> <p>Find out more about the service centralisations we are studying here:</p> <p> http://www.londoncancer.org/</p> <p> http://www.gmcancer.org.uk/</p> |
| <p style="text-align: center;"><u>NEXT NEWSLETTER: March 2018</u></p> <p>Please forward this newsletter to anyone who you think would be interested in our work.</p> <p>If you would prefer not to receive these newsletters, please contact c.vindrola@ucl.ac.uk and we will be happy to remove your details.</p> | |