

Blood Cancer Diagnosis, 'Spot Leukaemia' Workshop South East Wales

Registration - £10 members £15 non members

Time and date:

30th January 2020

12:00pm to 5:00pm

12:00pm - 1:00pm Registration and Lunch

Venue:

Cardiff TBC

The Royal College of General Practitioners and Leukaemia Care welcome you to this participative workshop; designed to empower primary care health professionals to recognise the vagaries involved in a rare blood cancer diagnosis and be up to date of appropriate referral pathways. The event will also focus on communication during diagnosis, establishing an action plan and appropriate after care.

The purpose of the event is:

- To raise the index of suspicion for primary care workers. To give specific tips on early warning signs.
- To improve the quality of communication and support offered to patients and their families by primary care.

Primary care health professionals play a crucial role in diagnosing blood cancer early. But the fact that you may only see one case of blood cancer every two years, combined with the notoriously vague and non-specific symptoms, means that diagnosis can be a challenge. As a result, blood cancers have a higher rate of emergency diagnosis than other cancer types. Emergency presentation rates account for 30% of blood cancers diagnosed, compared to 22% across all cancers. The highest emergency presentation rates for any cancer type occur in acute lymphoblastic leukaemia (ALL), at 65% of patients. Early diagnosis has a significant impact on both survival rates and patient experience.

- A desired outcome of this event is that practices will be better placed to diagnose the condition early, refer earlier and above all be more informed in managing a patient holistically.
- A further desired outcome would be for attendees to disseminate learning to their practice and audit how they have fared in the past and implement updates.

AGENDA

12:00pm - 1:00pm Registration and Lunch

1:00pm - 1:05pm Introduction

Event chair - Dr Anish Kotecha, GP partner (Cwmbran Village Surgery) and RCGP South East Wales Educational Lead.

1:05pm - 1:30pm 'Spot Leukaemia' campaign, Leukaemia Care patient survey
Zack Pemberton-Whiteley, Patient Advocacy Director, Leukaemia Care.

- Survey findings, recommendations and GP eLearning
- Emergency presentation, study of routes to diagnosis

1:30pm - 2:00pm Blood cancer epidemiology

Dr Steve Knapper, Haematology Consultant at UCHW

Professor Chris Fegan Consultant Haematologist & Director of The School of Medicine Cardiff University.

- Epidemiology - acute & chronic leukaemia, myeloma and lymphoma, (clinical features, pathophysiology etc).

2:00pm - 2:30pm Early diagnosis and Influence on outcomes in the modern era.

Dr Steve Knapper, Haematology Consultant at UCHW

Professor Chris Fegan Consultant Haematologist & Director of The School of Medicine Cardiff University.

- Signs and symptoms
- Case studies

2:30pm - 3:00pm 'Top tips', things not to forget about blood cancers .

Dr Steve Knapper, Haematology Consultant at UCHW

Professor Chris Fegan Consultant Haematologist & Director of The School of Medicine Cardiff University.

- Workshop ten questions, key points (from earlier talk)
- Hand out list of 'top tips'

3:00pm - 3:30pm GP perspective - Clinical care in practice.

GP Cancer Lead TBC

- Significance of early diagnosis
- Symptom vagaries
- Reasons for delay in diagnosis
- Overcoming challenges and barriers to early testing and referral.

3:30pm - 3:45pm Tea break

3:45pm - 4:00pm Acute leukaemia patient story and perspectives.

4:00pm - 4:15pm Dr John Perkins, GP & chronic leukaemia patient story and perspectives.

4:15pm - 4:45pm Clinical care in practice continued. Panel discussion with floor.

Dr Steve Knapper, Haematology Consultant at UCHW

Professor Chris Fegan Consultant Haematologist & Director of The School of Medicine Cardiff University.

Dr John Perkins, Chronic leukaemia patient.

Zack Pemberton-Whiteley, Patient Advocacy Director, Leukaemia Care.

- Doctor/patient communication
- Establishing an action plan
- On-going holistic care.

4:45pm - 5:00pm Parting summary - take home points - I have learned

Event chair - Dr Anish Kotecha, GP partner (Cwmbran Village Surgery) and RCGP South East Wales Educational Lead.