



Report to the Wessex Cancer Alliance Board				
Title:	Update on Southampton's Targeted Lung Health Check programme			
Sponsor	Rob Chambers, Head of Programmes – Prevention, Early and Faster Diagnosis			
Date:	24/6/20			
Purpose	Assurance or reassurance	Approval	Ratification	Information
	Yes			Yes
Issue to be addressed:	<p>As reported to Board in March 2020, Southampton's Targeted Lung Health Check programme was paused due to COVID 19. This was in line with national guidance issued by NHSE/I. This was regrettable as the programme had already seen a limited number of participants and was one of the first in the country to do so.</p> <p>The local Delivery Group in Southampton have recently met and concluded that there are now sufficient staff resources available in most clinical areas to recommence the programme. All element of the programme have been reviewed and the co-dependencies identified, the earliest that the project could recommence is August 2020.</p>			
Response to the issue:	<p>The current pathway as set out in the Standard Protocol developed by NHSE/I is that participants aged between 55 and 74 and 364 days of age at the date of the first low dose CT scan, registered with a GP practice who have ever smoked will be invited for a Lung Health Check via letter sent by the local site (in this case University Hospital Southampton) and invited to book an appointment for the lung health checks on the mobile support vehicle.</p> <p>At the lung health check, the participant would be asked a series of clinical questions which would then be inputted to the local clinical system. Based on the risk stratification tool mandated by NHSE/I and which is embed in the local clinical system (TARLIN) this would indicate whether the participant is eligible for a low dose CT scan – the CT scanner would be situated next to the support vehicle so that it is an one-stop service. A spirometry test is also part of the lung health check – although this does not input into the risk stratification output.</p> <p>If required, the participant will have a low dose CT scan and the image will be reported by a Radiologist and this will indicate what onward pathway (if any is required).</p> <p>The implications of COVID19 have been considered as part of the clinical pathway and the following principles have been agreed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social distancing will be adhered to 			



- Physical contact will be minimised
- PPE requirements will be kept to a minimum.

In order to meet the above principles, the pathway will be amended to reflect:

- A **virtual appointment** will be booked with participants, wherever possible this will be via telephone or video conferencing. During this virtual appointment as many of the lung health check questions will be answered with the participant
- If a virtual appointment is not possible a face to face appointment will be offered with appropriate social distancing and risk mitigation in place
- If through undergoing the lung health check the patient is identified as being high risk and requiring a low dose CT scan this will then be done immediately or an appointment will be booked with the participant
- If the patient consents to smoking cessation there will be the offer of this being made virtually.

The pathway as described above will not see a spirometry test performed. Spirometry tests are an aerosol generating procedure and national guidance states that they should not be used for routine tests. The results of the spirometry test do not input into the stratification tool.

The revised pathway will ensure that staff resources are maximised. One of the potential staff shortfalls is in relation to radiographers. The revised pathway would ensure that staff can be used as efficiently as possible – for example with pre-booked CT appointments, wherever possible.

Discussions have recently taken place between the Southampton team and NHSE/I about recommencing the local programme. They are currently evaluating the impact of COVID19 on the pathway. Whilst this work is being undertaken, the local team are continuing to work to the revised pathway and an August recommencement date.

It was planned for there to be a formal launch for the programme at an event such as Westquay – to raise the profile of the Lung Health Checks with the local population. There was a provisional agreement for a MP who had recently recovered from lung cancer to attend the event. Bearing in mind the social distancing restrictions, it has been decided that this will take the form a virtual launch and will maximise the use of social distancing and the local media.

The first site that will be hosting the CT scanner and support vehicle will be the Royal South Hampshire hospital. This is an ideal site in terms of its location in Southampton and the socio-demographic local population.

Work is currently taking place on planning the workflow of the revised pathway as this will impact on the maximum number of participants that



	<p>can be seen in a session.</p> <p>Whilst it is regrettable that the Lung Health Check programme has had to be paused, the local Delivery Group sees this as an opportunity to revise the pathway.</p> <p>One key risk is the potential for there to be a low uptake of the service due to concerns about the transmission of COVID19. This is being mitigated by the revised pathway and the fact that the first location for the vehicle is on a COVID protected site.</p>
<p>Implications: (Clinical, Organisational, Governance, Legal?)</p>	<p>The clinical pathway will be amended by the Delivery Group and agreed by the Clinical Director.</p>
<p>Risks: (Top 3) of carrying out the change / or not:</p>	<p>If the changes to the pathway are not made:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. There is a risk that turnout will be low due to COVID19 concerns by the participants 2. There will be a need for increased PPE 3. Further accommodation will need to be found to carry out spirometry tests.
<p>Summary: Conclusion and/or recommendation</p>	<p>That the progress on the Targeted Lung Health Check be noted.</p>