

## **Cancer meeting notes** **21<sup>st</sup> September, 2005**

**Attended:** Gloria Jones - Brent tPCT  
Nicola Pieterse - Brent Carers Centre  
Iman Ali Ramathan - Cricklewood Homeless Concern  
Jackie Collins - Brent HAZ  
Kathy Doyle - Brent HAZ (notes)

**Apologies:** Ola Hussein - Iraqi Welfare Association  
Rachel Parry - St. Lukes Hospice  
Ike Odina - Cancer Black Care  
Jane Lanyero - African Womens Care

### **1. Welcome & notes of last meeting**

- Page 1 - Ike has been promoting the BME report on screening
- Page 1 - In 4.1, '..... website for BBC.' This should read '.....website for Brent Carers Centre.' The website address is [www.carers.org/brent](http://www.carers.org/brent) for the Brent Carers Centre, this has a wide variety of info for carers such as benefits, carers courses, newsletter etc.
- Page 3 – 5a, there were 2 performances of the 'Cervical Monologues' - good attendance for both performances, a Colcoscopy nurse was also in attendance.
- Page 3 – 5b, the Cancer Roadshow did not go ahead, a coordinator could not be found for this.
- Page 3 – 5c, the Arabic leaflets are now ok in translation and content.
- This meeting's agenda items are being changed around.

### **2. Project Updates**

#### CHC

- Cancer info has been circulated and Smoking Cessation promoted. 200 people were seen in 50 sessions and from these sessions 12 people stopped smoking for more than 4 weeks.
- CHC are promoting a no smoking day in their building for one day each week, passive smokers also suffer health risks from 'second-hand' smoke.
- Cancer Black Care gave two talks on cancer. Sharon from Health Promotion at tPCT came to talk about healthy eating and diets and also food preparation. Food parcels and fruit donations have been received by CHC, 20 clients had filled in a Smoking Collaborative survey.

#### Brent Carers Centre

- Fast tracking services for people with cancer and their carers, also looking at how carers can access support when caring for more than one person.
- Young carers are being given lessons on healthy eating, diets, food preparation etc. Carers report given to the Carers PAG with recommendations. A breakdown

is needed from the Carers PAG on negative experiences for carers looking after people with different disabilities. Cross Roads is an organisation offering respite care only.

- Long term planning is needed for child carers- what happens to the children when a parent or both parents die? An example was given of a situation where the patient had a package of care but the patients children were not considered in this.
- GJ said the tPCT's Commissioning dept. pay for these services to be provided but there is a clear lack of coordination. It was suggested that a social worker specialising in terminally ill patients should use their expertise efficiently for coordination of care and service provision. A full assessment should also be provided for the family needs.

Iraqi Welfare Association      Not present - JC provided feedback

- Ola has spoken to the DOH about Arabic translation for cancer leaflets. Resource centres will be used for circulation of the leaflets.
- IWA are referring people to the appropriate services and have also been running seminar events on different cancers.
- The IWA newsletter is also being used to promote messages.

African Womens Care      Not present - JC provided feedback

- Jane has asked Gloria for speakers for the info sessions. The Health Screening Unit have two breast care nurses willing to do talks.
- Part of the Macmillan nurses role is to give clinical advice on breast care as well as other cancers e.g. lung, cervical.

Cancer Black Care      Not present - JC provided feedback

- The Channel 4 programme shown on TV was on a different date than publicised.

### **3. Future Project Funding**

- Local Delivery Project (LDP) for the next three years was finally signed off in July, but due to financial deficits from neighbouring health trusts the LDP budget was cut back and at present only the 05 - 06 budget has been set.
- The HAZ projects will need to start looking at external funding possibilities, some projects will be given funding from HAZ to help with this. JC waiting for invoices.
- On 8<sup>th</sup> of November there will be a tPCT Conference focusing on the move from funding grants to Service Level Agreements for community organisations. This means the tPCT will switch from grant funding (current spend of £8million) to these new agreements / contracts. The contracts will run for three years at a time and there will be some gains and losses in this new process. There will be some scope for the VCS to provide some of the services commissioned by the tPCT.

- JC passed on recommendations to the tPCT Board on behalf of the HAZ Committee. These included the continuation of small grant funding to VCS organisations for 'Health Initiatives'.  
JC has recommended some money should be 'set aside' for small grants in the future.
- The health inequalities work will continue within the tPCT and Brent Council through the tPCT's Public Health department. This will be based around the 'Choosing Health' agenda and the HAZ model of working with projects and monitoring will be kept.
- The new 'Payment By Results' (PBR) system will lead to funding changes to the present direct funding to the hospitals from PCT's. This means the funding for services will follow with the patient. GJ said that Practice Based Commissioning (PBC) is a system of commissioning by clusters of GP's to respond to local need in their locality. It could work well for the VCS in some aspects of service.
- A lot more work would need to be done on London wide screening, bowel and breast screening still have very low take up rates although GJ is working on the static and BECAD side. There is a cervical screening project in Harlesden, profiling where the screening programmes are more successful that is being worked on. The older members of population are more likely to take up and attend screening sessions, the 20-35 age group still have extremely low take up rates for cervical screening.
- GJ also said that there is a pilot project for bowel screening in the ACAD at the CMH, there had been a 20% takeup so far which was good. A mobile unit to share with West London has been suggested, but this could be off putting for this screening. Men are far less responsive to screening and this needs working on, NWLHT are bidding to provide this service with hope of rolling out across the borough for April 2006.
- The test would be for blood in faeces and if positive further tests will be done. Initially the 60 – 70 year age group will be targeted by postal referrals, they would have to be registered with a GP to receive the referral. NWLHT will be one of three national training centres likely to be included in the 1<sup>st</sup> wave. Prostate screening is not reliable and results can be very misleading.  
**ACTION: GJ will generate a letter to be circulated from the HAZ office which will promote and target men who shy away from screening.**
- More health seminars to raise awareness will happen across Brent, a questionnaire and survey is needed.
- JC said that from the Cervical Monologues discussion, it was suggested contraception and sexual health advice could be given to women at the same time as their screening appointment.
- There will be two performances of 'Touch Wood' a breast screening play, Breast Care UK a national charity will come to both sessions to help with the after play discussion.  
JC hopes that some of the tPCT staff will be able to attend, to then talk to young women about the low uptake of screening. JG suggested that there will be a MacMillan coffee morning at the PCT, the play could be promoted with this event on the intranet. £5 million was raised for Macmillan last year from the coffee morning.

#### **4. A.O.B.**

TB mobile unit flyer was circulated for information with very short notice given on dates.

This had been sent by email to the HAZ office from the Brent Refugee Forum. No publicity had been seen through the local press or NHS networks or local press.

Ali said the CHC had received a last minute cancellation in July from the screening unit and CHC had no notification of these latest dates either.

**ACTION: JC to raise this at next TB steering group meeting**

**Next meeting date:**

**15<sup>th</sup> February '06, 10am – 12noon at Bridge Park Leisure Centre**