Tackling Neighbourhood Health Inequalities in Newham Primary Care

Newham Primary Care Networks borough wide projects

Project 1: All age immunisations (focus on children)

Aim

To reduce the number of unvaccinated children and reduce the likelihood of a public health outbreak such as measles.

Main actions

- Secured additional care coordinators to support delivery
- Provided additional support to underperforming practices
- Launched a targeted four-week pilot supporting child and young person immunisation
- Established enhanced call / recall services, targeting families who were hesitant or declined vaccination
- Tailored communications to maximise impact of key messages

Key outcomes

- Newham average 6 in 1 uptake for children aged 12 months increased from 85.5% to 90.9%
- Childhood seasonal flu vaccination uptake rose to 93.0%
- 2,519 extra at risk 18–64years received flu vaccination
- Increased polio booster uptake to 77% of those eligible.
- 40 polio booster clinics held and 1020 boosters administered
- Provided 149 vaccines to children and young people who would otherwise not have received them
- Convinced around 30 families, who were hesitant to be vaccinated, to attend vaccination clinics

Next steps

- Staff training on APL tool
- Quality Improvement (QI) work with Equip supporting five practices
- Continue work on flu and COVID booster campaign
- NHC roving team looking into delivering diphtheria vaccines for migrants currently living in dispersal hotels

Project 2: Increasing access to cancer diagnostic services

Aim

To improve cancer outcomes for patients through better prevention and creating multiple access routes to screening and diagnosis.

Main actions

- Worked with partners and Cancer Alliance to plan, share learning and identify key priority areas for additional support.
- Established NHC Newham Cancer Steering Group
- Reviewed CEG cancer data to inform cohorts to target
- Identified Roving Team support to be focussed on engaging with LD and SMI patients to access Cervical Smears
- Promoted training for non-clinical staff on encouraging patients to take up cervical screening
- Developed and provided to practices 'Easy Read' posters to display in waiting rooms
- Identified SMI and LD patients who have not completed either breast, or cervical cancer screening and ensured they were offered more support
- Roving team provided call and recall to LD patients to invite to cervical smear for patients who previously did not engage with services
- Worked with partners to develop Easy Read materials and questionnaire on accessing cancer screening services

Key outcomes

- As of October 2023 (compared to the previous year) we see that
  - the percentage of patients aged 25-49 screened for cervical cancer has increased from 72.8% to 73.9%
  - The percentage of patients aged 50-64 screened for cervical cancer increased from 80% to 84.4%
- Held health and wellbeing event targeting LD patients who had not accessed cancer screening
- Information provided on what to expect at cancer screening appointments
- Presentations from Nutrition Kitchen on healthy cooking, nutrition and diet, and all cancers
- Exercise yoga class provided
- Covid and Flu Vaccines offered

Next steps

- Start delivery of cervical smears clinics for LD patients and roll out across the borough
- Obtain data on cancer screening coverage by ethnicity in Newham
- Set target for increase in screening coverage using 22/23 as baseline
- Sharing of case-based learning about multiple presentations and or late diagnosis
- Re-audit of attendance data introduced into system to complete audit cycle for continuous improvement

Have you had a smear test?

Smear tests are happening and you may get a letter from your doctors inviting you to go.

It is important that women with a learning disability or a Serious Mental Illness are given the option to go to a smear test because it saves 5,000 lives every year.

It is important that you book an appointment if you are invited for a smear test (also called cervical screening).

If you missed your last smear test or are not sure, speak to your doctor.

You can find out more in the easy read leaflet at:
www.nhs.uk/cervicalscreening