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MACMILLAN
CANCER SUPPORT

Ealing Cancer ESTAR Event 2013

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A Cancer ESTAR event was proposed to ensure that primary care professionals are well-equipped to deal with the emerging issues such as survivorship, prevention, cancer screening programmes and early detection.

- Afternoon event (12pm-4.30pm) on Thursday 14th March
- Attended by 68 health professionals
- Supported by NHS Ealing CCG and Macmillan Cancer Support

What were the objectives?

To promote discussions on cancer care in Ealing

To provide an opportunity to meet others involved in cancer care

To introduce Macmillan One-to-One Support project in Ealing

To highlight emerging issues in cancer care, particularly survivorship and the role of cancer screening programmes

To optimise collaborative working within cancer networks and promote shared care strategies in Ealing

The programme for the event was a combination of talks, tabletop discussions within health networks, plenary discussions and small group workshops. Three workshops were held:

Cancer Awareness & Early Cancer Diagnosis

Case studies were used to highlight commonly encountered difficulties in patients presenting with early symptoms of cancer, with discussion of possible strategies which could be used to overcome these issues.

Bowel Cancer

Focusing on the roles of primary care in colorectal cancer care, including early detection of suspicious symptoms, encouraging uptake of the bowel cancer screening programme in asymptomatic patients, support of bowel cancer patients post-treatment and education of patients with regard to prevention of bowel cancer.

End of Life Care

Facilitated by a Palliative Care Consultant and Specialist Nurse who aimed to cover important aspects of end of life care which are relevant to community care. The focus was on the early identification of patients approaching the end of life using GSF and the National End of Life Care Pathway.

How did we do?

** Informal feedback on the day was very positive

** Many felt the workshops had helped them identify specific areas they will incorporate into their clinical practice to improve care of cancer patients in their area

** Secondary care specialists who attended also provided extremely positive feedback

The organisers have subsequently received several expressions of interest from other Ealing Hospital Consultants to be involved in the next ESTAR Cancer event as it is an ideal forum to promote collaborative learning and improve local cancer services.

WE SHARE KNOWLEDGE