

NHS Bowel Cancer Screening Programme

Wolverhampton Bowel Cancer Screening Centre



Annual Report

April 2017 to March 2018



@RWT_NHS

Introduction

Bowel cancer remains the fourth most common cancer in the UK after breast, prostate and lung cancers. According to Cancer Research UK, there were over 41,800 new cases during 2015 and, in 2016 there were over 16,300 deaths from bowel cancer. Furthermore, there are around 44 deaths from bowel cancer every day and it remains the second most common cause of cancer death, accounting for 10% of all cancer deaths.¹

There are around 268,000 people living in the UK today who have been diagnosed with bowel cancer. However, it is treatable and curable, especially if diagnosed early.

Generally for people with bowel cancer in England and Wales:

- Around 75 out of 100 people (around 75%) survive their cancer for 1 year or more
- Around 60 out of 100 people (around 60%) survive their cancer for 5 years or more
- Almost 60 out of 100 people (almost 60%) survive their cancer for 10 years or more

Through education and health promotion, the bowel cancer screening service seeks to improve these figures by removing adenomas and identifying cancer at an early stage.

Bowel Cancer Screening Service 2017/18

The Wolverhampton Bowel Cancer Screening Centre is based at New Cross Hospital, Wolverhampton and covers the eligible population of Wolverhampton, Dudley and Walsall. In addition, the centre also serves the eligible population of the Seisdon peninsula of South Staffordshire and, from April 2017, Cannock. This takes in a total population of around 1,100,000. The colonoscopy screening and bowel

¹ <https://www.cancerresearchuk.org/health-professional/cancer-statistics/statistics-by-cancer-type/bowel-cancer#heading-Zero> [accessed 12 October 2018].

scope procedures are completed at New Cross Hospital, Wolverhampton, Russells Hall Hospital, Dudley and Cannock Chase Hospital at Cannock. The team is led by Bowel Cancer Screening Clinical Director, Dr Andrew Veitch, who is supported by accredited screening Endoscopists, Endoscopy Nurses, Specialist Screening Practitioners (SSPs) and an admin team. The service is run in accordance with the National Bowel Cancer Screening QA, maintaining timescales and contact time within National Cancer Pathways.

As already mentioned, from April 2017, the centre took over the population of Cannock who are now offered the service at their local hospital at Cannock Chase Hospital. This avoids the previous journey to Stoke-on-Trent, saving a round trip of about 60 miles.

The Screening Centre Team

Colonoscopy screening and bowel scope procedures are carried out at New Cross Hospital, Russells Hall Hospital and Cannock Chase Hospital. This year has seen an investment in extra Endoscopists as the service has expanded. Each Endoscopist has to be fully accredited within the national programme and their level of competency maintained.

The bowel cancer screening team at New Cross Hospital and Cannock Chase Hospital consists of:

Dr Matthew Brookes
Dr Brian McKaig
Dr Aravinth Muruganathan
Dr Andrew Veitch

In addition, the team for bowel scope procedures are:

Mrs Samantha Mason
Dr Hari Padmanabhan
Mrs Sharon Powell
Mrs Cathy Regan
Dr Ashit Shah

The bowel cancer screening team at Russells Hall Hospital consists of:

Dr Sauid Ishaq
Dr Sharan Shetty

In addition, the team for bowel scope procedures are:

Mrs Justine Baker
Mrs Kirsty Carrothers
Dr Neil Fisher
Mrs Samantha Horley
Dr Rizwan Mahmood
Dr Deepa Rattehalli

There have been a number of changes to the Specialist Screening Practitioner team, who welcomed Joanne Brookes in November 2017 and Jon Taylor in March 2018.



The current team of Specialist Screening Practitioners and the Administrative Team

Bowel Cancer Screening Service

The NHS Bowel Cancer Screening Programme offers screening every two years to all men and women aged 60 to 74 who are registered with a GP. It aims to detect

bowel cancer at an early stage in people with no symptoms when treatment is likely to be more effective. Residents in this age group will automatically be sent an invitation through the post, followed by their screening kit, so they can complete the test in the privacy of their own home. The GP records provide the contact details, so it is important that they are kept up to date with any changes.



The Faecal Occult Blood test or FOB (occult blood means hidden blood) does not diagnose bowel cancer, but the results will tell whether an examination of the bowel is needed. The procedure can detect bowel cancer in people that have no symptoms. When diagnosis is

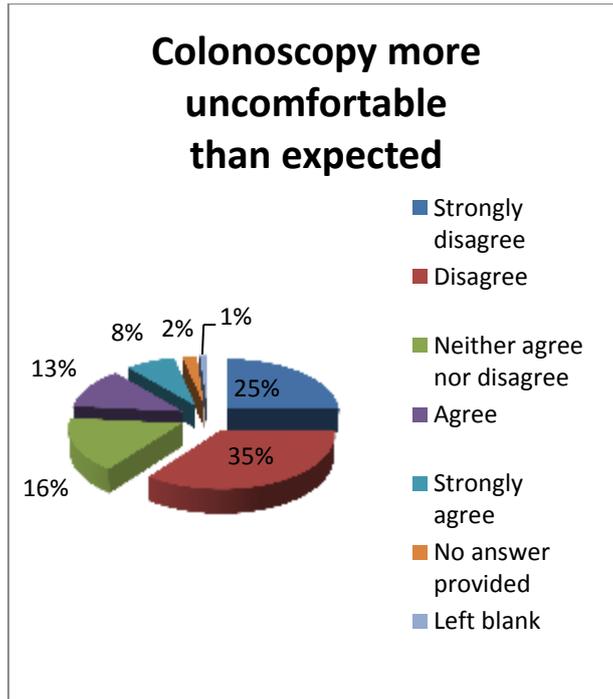
made early, before it has had a chance to spread, bowel cancer can be cured in over 90% of cases. The later a diagnosis is made, the more difficult bowel cancer is to treat. Screening can also detect polyps, which are not cancers, but may develop into cancers over time. They can be easily removed at a screening colonoscopy, reducing the risk of bowel cancer developing.

Since the service began in 2006, the service has invited 716,902 people to participate. A total of 383,145 have completed the FOBt kit and over 550 cancers have been identified. Unfortunately, uptake remains low. Increasing uptake would help to save more lives.

Patient Experience

Thirty days following the colonoscopy, a patient questionnaire is produced and sent out. Between July 2016 and June 2017, 761 questionnaires were sent out and 536 were returned, an overall response rate of 70%.

Patient comfort during the procedure is important to us and, from their point of view, 21% found the procedure more uncomfortable than expected.



We are very proud of the service we offer on all of our three sites and a selection of comments from questionnaires completed by patients is below:

- The team were very professional and extremely caring. I would recommend this procedure to anyone.
- The whole procedure was handled professionally and with respect. Top class treatment from all.
- I was very happy with the treatment I had. Very friendly and helpful staff, and excellent doctors and nurses. Thank you. Excellent service.
- Very professional people couldn't do enough for me and I was very happy with the procedure. Thank you very much.

A copy of the audit is available by calling the Bowel Cancer Screening Centre on 01902 695193.

Bowel Scope Service

NHS Bowel Scope Screening is a test offered to all men and women aged 55, which looks inside the lower bowel. The aim is to find and remove any small growths, called polyps, in the bowel that could eventually turn into cancer. The

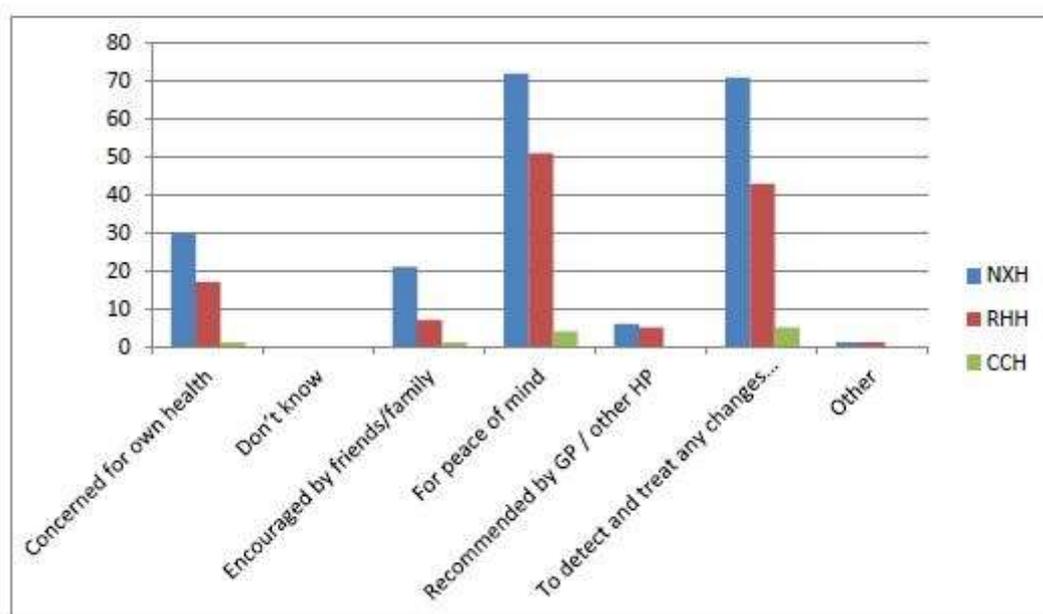


Wolverhampton Screening Centre was the first site in the country to offer this new preventative service to the whole of its local population, of which we are very proud. The service is now in its 5th year and almost 20,000 patients have been screened across the catchment area. As with the Bowel Cancer Screening service, uptake remains low.

Patient Experience

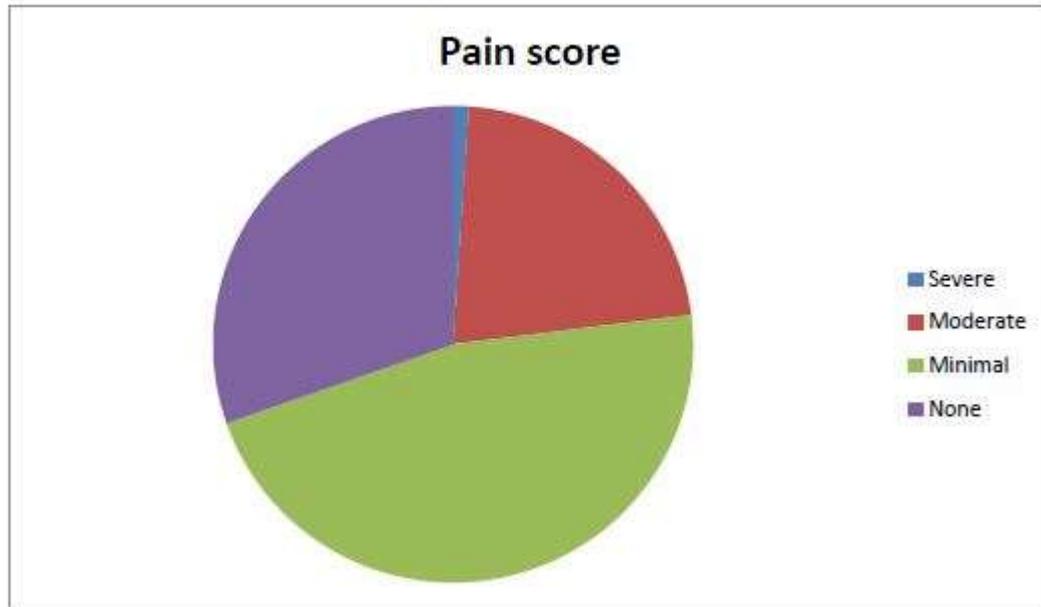
To gauge the patient experience of their bowel scope procedure, a questionnaire was handed out over a two week period during October 2017. The response rate was 49% with positive results. Some of these are below:

Why did you participate in the NHS Bowel Scope Screening Programme?
(Please choose one or more options):

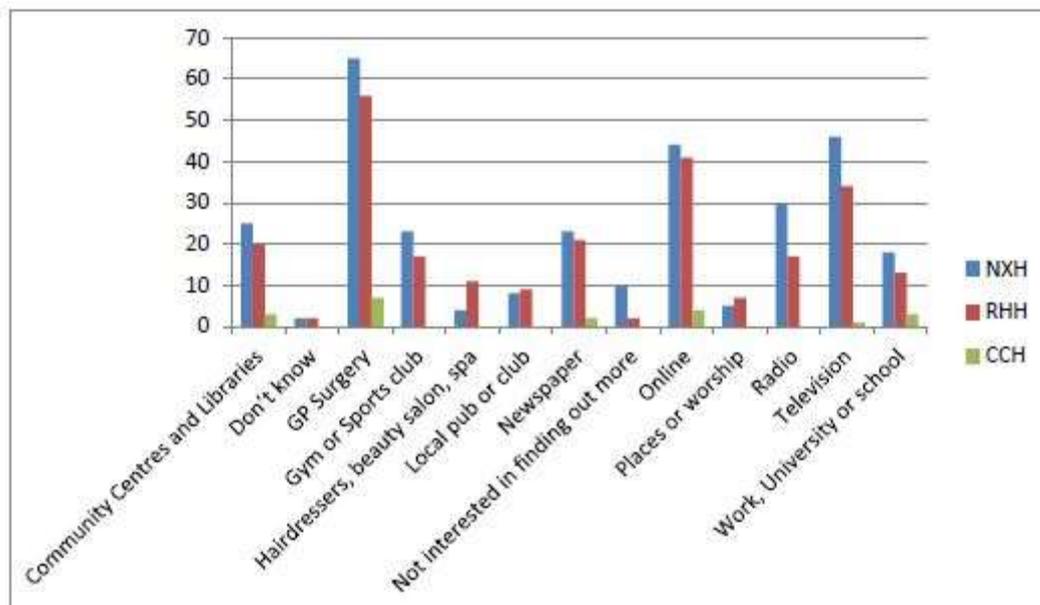


Participants were asked:

How would you rate your pain/discomfort during the procedure?



Participants were then asked where they would like to find out more about NHS Bowel Cancer Screening. The majority of participants reported their GP surgery:



The above demonstrates the importance of the GP's role in helping to promote the whole service.

Out of the 192 responders, 190 indicated that they would continue with the service at age 60 by doing the 'poo kit', and 187 indicated that they would encourage family and friends to participate.

Health Promotion

During 2017-18 the department made significant headway with health promotion. In addition to the social media presence on Facebook and Twitter, we have promoted the Bowel Cancer Screening Programme in a number of ways. To summarise:

Meetings were arranged and took place with various Practice Managers across the region to promote the service. Some of these involved a short presentation and promotional material handed out.

A raffle was held during April in the Endoscopy Department at New Cross Hospital, promoting Bowel Cancer Awareness Month. This raised £1,236.00 for Bowel Cancer UK. Letters were sent to local businesses thanking them for support and helping to raise awareness.



From April 2017, Cannock Chase Hospital was transferred from University Hospitals of North Midlands to The Royal Wolverhampton NHS Trust, providing a local service to the local people of Cannock. The Bowel Cancer Screening Service was promoted through an article in the Express and Star newspaper. Later

in the year, Amanda Milling, MP for Cannock Chase, accepted an invitation to visit the Endoscopy Unit at Cannock and learn more about the bowel cancer screening service.

Various patient forums were held throughout the region.

SSPs promoted the service alongside flu clinics at a number of GPs. Pull up banners were taken and health promotion material handed out.



Events took place at Wolverhampton Science Park to support Team W. GPs were invited along to learn more about the service and advice on increasing uptake.



A campaign took place during January and early February promoting the service on the back of buses. Routes were targeted at areas where uptake is on the lower side. Posters were also displayed on the interior of buses and at Midland Metro stations.

Towards the end of 2017, the department worked closely with a media company to produce a short advertisement which aired on the Midlands region of Smooth Radio during March 2018. The advertisement reached over 800,000 people. This particular station is popular with the age range of the screening population.

Future Development of the Service

As has been announced by the Government, the current FOBt kit will be changing to a different type of kit which is reported as easier to use and more accurate. There is no date for the implementation of this but we will be promoting this nearer the time, to ensure you have the relevant information to promote screening. It is thought that uptake of the service will increase with the result of saving even more lives.

Conclusion

Bowel Cancer Screening continues to expand to capture and encourage participation within the catchment area. It continually meets the challenges of capacity to maintain parameters set by QA standards. Increase in promotional activities and education continues to help raise awareness of the service and also of prevention. The staff continue to build good relations with our CCG partners and GP surgeries to promote the benefits of screening with the aim of increasing the number of people who take part.

WITH YOUR HELP, THE SERVICE WILL SAVE MORE LIVES.

For further information about bowel cancer, the following websites are accessible:



www.bowelcanceruk.org.uk



www.cancerresearchuk.org/about-cancer/bowel-cancer



<https://www.gov.uk/topic/population-screening-programmes/bowel>