National Review of Breast Cancer QPI Data

West of Scotland Cancer Network (WoSCAN) Response to National Recommendations

Further to publication of the External Assurance of Performance against Breast Cancer Quality Performance Indicators in December 2016. A coordinated West of Scotland response has been developed, agreed by all four constituent Boards, to the national actions regarding the Clinical Trials Access QPI and Patient Experience QPI.

Clinical Trials Access QPI: The review group recommends that while there are challenges in meeting the targets, particularly for smaller units, NHS boards should invest further in the infrastructure and resource needed to participate effectively in clinical trials.

Access to clinical trials is a generic issue across all tumour types.

All cancer patients in the WoS are considered for potential participation in the open trials currently available. However, consequent to the demise of larger general trials and the advent of genetically selective trials that only target small populations of patients, many of the cancer trials that are currently open to recruitment in WoS, and Scotland as a whole, have very select eligibility criteria. Consequently they will only be available to a small percentage of the total number of people who were diagnosed with cancer.

Patient Experience QPI: The review group recommended that all NHS boards further develop their activities to support ongoing improvement of patient experience.

West of Scotland (WoS) Boards previously submitted an overview of ongoing patient experience work being undertaken locally to support ongoing improvement of patient experience specifically regarding breast cancer to Healthcare Improvement Scotland.

Further to the publication of the Scottish Cancer Patient Experience Survey results WoS Boards are working to address areas identified as relevant to their specific Board through this report, across all cancer types.