



Trust staff star on nirectv

March 30, 2011

Two Breast Care Nurse Specialists from the Southern Health and Social Care Trust are playing a leading role on the new nirect tv channel, launched recently by the First Minister, Peter Robinson and deputy First Minister, Martin McGuinness.

Sister Eimer McGeown and Sister Annie Treanor devised and feature in a short video clip which shows women how to self-examine their breasts, as well as promoting the importance of attending for regular breast screening.

nirect is the website for government information and services. The launch of nirect tv allows Information to be provided to the public in a variety of accessible ways.

The breast care video is the only health related topic selected for initial inclusion on the site. The video was filmed in Daisy Hill Hospital and shows women in simple, straightforward steps the best way to examine their breasts.

The nirect tv website is supported by UTV. As Annie and Eimer explained, the professionalism of the UTV production team made the filming experience very enjoyable: "It took a whole day to produce a video that only lasts a couple of minutes, but the crew took time with us to make sure we were comfortable about being filmed and were confident that it would be an easy-to-follow reference for women. It was great to be involved and hopefully the video will be a valuable aid for women in protecting their health. Erin Craig from the DHSSPS Press Office deserves a special mention as she ensured that everything ran smoothly. "



L-R Peter Robinson, Eimer McGeown, Annie Treanor, Martin McGuinness

Director of Acute Services in the Southern Trust, Dr Gillian Rankin said: "It is vital that women are encouraged and supported to spot changes in their breasts at an early stage and seek professional advice as soon as possible. This video is a very accessible way to promote "Breast Self Awareness" and will be of huge benefit to women throughout Northern Ireland."

The video can be viewed at www.nirect.gov.uk/tv.

Statistical data for quarter 3, Oct – Dec 2010

Uptake% 50-64	Screen to assessment % within 3 weeks	Round Length % within 36 months 50-64
Eastern 74.1%	Eastern 96.2%	Eastern 99.1%
Northern 80.2%	Northern 100%	Northern 99.7%
Southern 70.9%	Southern 98.7%	Southern 50.0%
Western 68.3%	Western 100%	Western 98.9%
<i>Breast Screening</i> Region 73.8%	<i>Breast Screening</i> Region 98.0%	<i>Breast Screening</i> Region 89.0%
Minimum Standard Target >70% 80%	Minimum Standard Target 90% 100%	Minimum Standard Target 90% within 36 months 100%

TRAINING THE TRAINER

BREAST CANCER CARE HEALTH PROMOTION COURSE, 28 SEPTEMBER 2010

What the Belfast Trust nominated Health Promotion Team learned from this study day!

First and foremost this was an opportunity to meet up, network, support and spend quality time with fellow members of the breast screening teams from the other Trusts. The future trend is towards more regional collaboration. Recent examples include developing an outline business case for digital mammography equipment and the introduction of an electronic link between NHAIS (which underpins primary care) and NBSS (the National Breast Screening System)



Above Claire Beatty team leader, Sheena Harvey, Eimear Sweeney and Collette Nixon.

Secondly, it was the knowledge and information gained in breast awareness and health promotion including:-

- Identifying those who are least breast aware and how to overcome this.
- Understanding the 5 point breast awareness code. (The team plans to develop a poster display explaining the code).
- Communication: Age as a risk factor - Older ladies do not always know that risk increases significantly with age. Breast Cancer Care is launching an 80 over 50 campaign to review its education and information strategy – as a result, information leaflets will be handed out to women over 70 to encouraged attendance and a new 'opt out' protocol will be written.
- Identifying barriers to attendance and suggested solutions and options to overcome them.
- Understanding the impact of health inequalities and how to overcome barriers to breast screening.
- Knowledge of the key aims of the cancer reform strategy – to reduce inequalities in cancer incidence and increase access to high quality cancer care outcomes.

Web page launch

The Eastern Breast Screening Unit, based at 12-22 Linenhall Street, launched their website in January 2011. The new site, www.screeningcentrebelfast.co.uk provides information about the Belfast and South Eastern Trust's Breast Screening Centre, the services offered, key statistics, locations of the static and mobile screening units, and areas to be screened: including approximate dates for screening.

Thirdly, the team has gained an increased confidence to deliver key messages on breast awareness and screening to a diverse range of women.

**Hilary Speers, BIS Manager and Nominated Health Promotion team
Belfast HSC Trust**



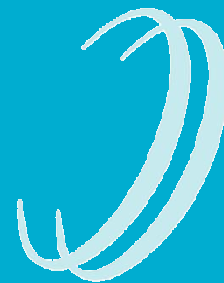
Public Health
Agency



**Cervical
Screening**

SCREENING MATTERS

Newsletter of the Northern Ireland
Cancer Screening Programmes



Issue 20 Produced by QARC for Health Professionals in NI Cancer Screening Programmes SPRING 2011

CERVICAL CYTOLOGY UPDATE—March 2011

During March 2011, the Quality Assurance Reference Centre (QARC) hosted four refresher events for smear takers in Northern Ireland. These events were organised in association with primary care colleagues in the HSCB and were primarily aimed at GPs, primary care nurses and family planning staff who are already experienced in smear taking. It is a national cervical screening standard that all smear takers should undertake update training every three years.



Over 300 people attended the events which were held in Lisburn, Omagh, Craigavon and Belfast. Dr Tracy Owen, QA Director NICSP opened the events and gave an overview of the screening programme in Northern Ireland, especially in view of the recent changes to screening policy. Dr Michael Chambers, QA Lead for Primary Care NICSP discussed the primary care perspective and responsibilities for screening at practice level. Mrs Louise Logan, Nurse Practitioner at Templepatrick Surgery provided a refresher on the role of the sample taker.

At each event, local Trust staff provided updates on the laboratory and colposcopy aspects of the screening service:

Lisburn – Dr Dianne McGibben, Mrs Hilary Diamond & Dr Alison Love

Omagh – Mr Paul McKeever & Mr Abdel Mageed

Craigavon – Dr Rosemary Clarke & Dr Harmini Sidhu

Belfast – Dr Dianne McGibben, Ms Roisin McKenna & Dr Hans Nagar

Presentations from the events are available at www.cancerscreening.hscni.net

QARC plans to host a further update training session in the Northern Trust area in the coming months. The details will be circulated in due course. The Primary Care QA advisory group will review feedback from the events to inform future programmes and will also be considering how refresher training can best be provided in Northern Ireland on an ongoing basis.

Timely and well presented?

92% YES

Relevant to
educational
needs

97% YES

Learn a
great deal?

86%

YES

Influence
clinical
practice?

89%

YES

If you would like to submit a news item, or would like to publish the results of an audit in **Screening Matters**, please contact Ken McInnes on 02890 553949 or Public Health Agency QARC, 4th floor Champion House, 12-22 Linenhall Street, Belfast BT2 8BS. For further information and back issues, please visit our website at: www.cancerscreening.hscni.net.

New Cervical Screening Leaflets launched

The new age range and screening intervals policy was introduced in Northern Ireland from January 2011 and all smear takers should now be familiar with this. The PHA took the opportunity of the policy change to redesign the series of patient information leaflets which accompany the cervical screening programme. The revised leaflets have a completely new look and incorporate an updated logo for the regional programme. The logo, design and content were fully tested with focus groups prior to the final version being published. At this stage, translations have not been made available, however, these will be considered on request to the QARC office.

Copies of the new resources have been issued to practices and everyone is encouraged to make these available to all women at the appropriate stage of the screening pathway to support informed decision making and participation. QARC recommends that all women are given a copy of the "Your results explained" leaflet at the time of their smear test.

The *colposcopy examination* leaflet has not been issued to primary care, as it will accompany appointment letters sent by Trusts. Please do not request copies of these for your practice as this will limit the supply available to Trusts.

Further supplies of the resources can be obtained from the contacts below.

Cervical screening:
your results explained



Cervical screening:
it's best to take the test



Cervical screening:
the colposcopy examination



Maureen Stephen
CRIS,
Knockbracken
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Saintfield Road,
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trevor.veale@belfasttrust.hscni.net
02890 565 862

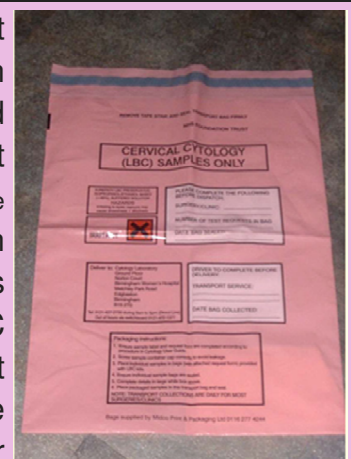
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Pink Transport Bag Success in Belfast Cervical Cytology!

About a year ago, Belfast Trust undertook an audit of "specimen transport times" for Cervical LBC vials from source to the laboratory. This highlighted an average transport time of 6.67 days. In an effort to improve on this, and ultimately improve turnaround times, the laboratory trialed a "pink" transport bag which facilitated instant visual recognition and improved delivery times. (See photo right) An audit of transport times post-pink bag introduction, registered an average turnaround of 1.21 days – a dramatic improvement! All smear takers in Belfast & South East Trusts should now use these transport bags for LBC vials when sending samples to Belfast laboratory as it has been a great improvement to the overall Cervical Screening Service. Anyone not using the bags in Belfast Trust should contact their local dispatch/supplies source for supplies of pink bags.



Belfast Trust Pink transport Bag

Colposcopy News and information

KC65 E?

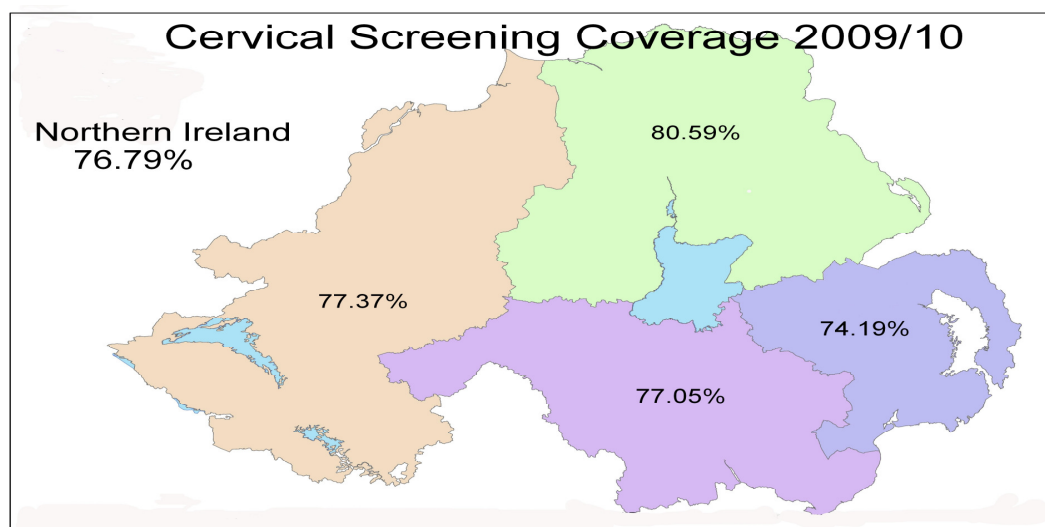
Cervical Biopsies by type and outcome.

Details of all cervical biopsies taken in the first month of the quarter.

Regional GA Audit

A regional audit in the use of GA when treatment is offered has been completed.

The results of the audit will be presented to Northern Ireland Lead Colposcopists at their annual meeting in June.



Plans are well under way for the 2011 Colposcopy conference. This year the meeting will be held in Belfast City Hospital. And this year we will be joined by our colleagues from the Irish Cervical Screening programme. The meeting is scheduled for Friday 24th June. A programme consisting of variety of topics from speakers both local and international. As soon as I have a programme it will be emailed to you. please email QARC for further details. As this will be a joint programme conference, space will be limited



so please book early. Up to date info can also be found on our website.

ISCCP

CANCERSCREENING.HSCNI.NET

SMEAR TAKER TRAINING - 2011 / 2012

All new smear takers are required to undertake an approved training course in initial knowledge and skills, before participating in the cervical screening programme. Such courses are provided by the School of Nursing and Midwifery at Queen's University Belfast (QUB) and the University of Ulster, Jordanstown (UUJ).

Information on courses at QUB can be found at www.qub.ac.uk/schools/SchoolofNursingandMidwifery.

The UUJ offer breast and cervical screening training courses throughout the year depending on demand. The module (NUR 775) runs over a 5 day period followed by 6 months to complete the practical aspect, with a practical assessment at the end. There is a consolidation day at the end of this period.

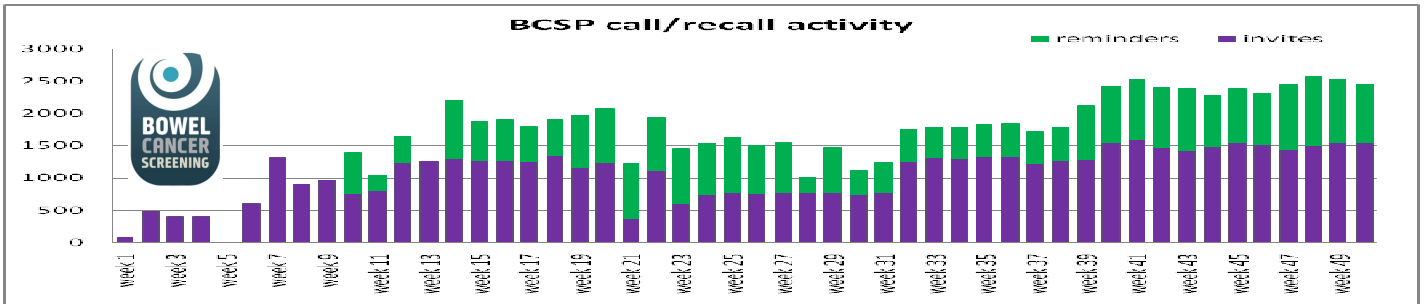
Please contact QUB or UUJ directly for course fees and availability.



BOWEL CANCER SCREENING

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As the Bowel Cancer Screening programme completes it's first year, provisional activity data is now available.



Call Recall

The Bowel Screening Programme has been in operation since April 2010 and, so far, has been rolled out to the Western, Northern and South Eastern Trust areas.

It is recognised that some individuals are unsuitable to participate in the programme e.g. individuals diagnosed with certain conditions, individuals who have already undergone a colonoscopy or who may be included in polyp surveillance programmes.

In these cases the Screening Office may defer or cease the individual from the programme but requires confirmation from the GP that the action is appropriate and, to this end, issues a proforma type letter to the GP for signature.

A number of GPs have raised concerns regarding patient confidentiality and the Screening Office would like to take this opportunity to assure GPs that the individuals are informed of our intention to seek confirmation from their GPs before the letters are issued.

An early reply is most appreciated as it has come to our attention that some outstanding letters had been scanned, by practice staff, onto the patients' records but had not been returned to the Screening Office.

GP's please note that any correspondence relating to the Bowel or the Cytology Screening Programmes may be returned to the Screening Office at BSO using the weekly DX courier service between BSO and GP Practices.

Status (at Friday 25th March 2011)	Number of individuals	%
Ceased	343	0.6%
Returned to routine recall	20,761	39.1%
First call (i.e. non-responder & episode closed)	11,557	21.7%
Invite sent (episode still open)	19,546	36.8%
Suspended – cancer, polyp surveillance	133	0.25%
Suspended – other reason	328	0.6%
In progress through screening pathway	477	0.9%
TOTAL	53,145	100%

Screening results

To Friday 25 March 2011 (week 50)
 74 positive FOB results.
 1,570 equivocal FOB results.
 528 positive FIT results.

