

November 2020

Dear Colleagues,

Subject: C the Signs rollout for NE London in November 2020

C the Signs is a clinical decision support tool designed by clinicians to help GPs rapidly identify and manage patients at risk of cancer at the earliest and most curable stage. C the Signs has been approved by NE London for local adoption and has been adapted to local NE London cancer referral pathways. In addition, it has been updated to reflect local COVID-19 arrangements.

The North East London Cancer Alliance has obtained funding to purchase and implement C the Signs for every GP practice in Waltham Forest, Newham, Barking & Dagenham, Havering and Redbridge. This funding is available for one year during which an evaluation will be undertaken to inform future use.

Supports early identification of patients at risk of cancer

C the Signs rapidly filters the >200 items in NICE NG12 guidance mapped against the latest evidence to identify cancers a patient is at risk of and the most appropriate next steps. The tool covers the entire spectrum of cancers and cross-references multiple diagnostic pathways. It can be approached in a variety of ways, from symptom and system reviews to diagnostic findings.

Additionally, it allows:

- **Remote risk assessment:** helps identify patients at risk of cancer and recommends appropriate tests, referral, or investigation pathways
- **Digital two week-wait forms:** new COVID-19 referral forms are embedded into the tool and updated centrally in real-time
- **Safety netting:** automatically adds patients flagged at risk of cancer to the practice Safety Netting Dashboard for practice administrative staff to track and follow-up
- **Patient information:** lets GPs rapidly text leaflets and cancer resources to the patient
- **PCN DES & QI QOF Module for Early Diagnosis:** enables practices to achieve Early Diagnosis targets

Secured with end-to-end encryption and easy to use, C the Signs sits within SystmOne, EMIS and Vision and saves its recommendations to the main patient record.

Adapted to the COVID-19 pandemic

C the Signs offers many benefits to GPs managing patients during the COVID-19 pandemic and its recovery phase, including:

- **Noticeboard function:** allowing rapid updates to be provided on opening the tool
- **Deferred patients:** safety-nets patients who have been 'deferred' due to COVID, adding them to a 'Deferred Page' on the Dashboard, to track and refer when appropriate
- **Safety netting function:** vital to tracking unclear symptoms or urgent investigation uptake (e.g. FIT testing)

Accessing C the Signs

In order to access C the Signs, practices are asked to sign a Data Processing Agreement (DPA). Your DPO lead and representatives have been consulted at the BHR Data Access Group, which has supported the use of this tool on practice systems.

1. On **13 November 2020**, practices will have receive an email from the Data Controller Console (DCC) alerting them to sign the C the Signs DPA.
2. Please contact Bill Jenks bill.jenks@nhs.net or Simon Lam simonlam@nhs.net if you are having any difficulties accessing the DCC.

C the Signs will be live on **30th November 2020** provided 60% of BHR practices have consented to the DPA. C the Signs will send the practice username and password details along with further instructions to the Practice Managers.

Support and training webinars

The C the Signs team is running **weekly 20-minute webinar demos** for GPs and primary care staff. Please [register for the live webinar here](#). Alternatively, you can access a [SystemOne video demo here](#) or [EMIS video demo here](#) at a time that suits you. This training is vital to ensure practices get the most out of the tool. **Please contact the C the Signs Team at training@cthesigns.co.uk or 020 7157 9656 for general support with C the Signs or to request a bespoke demo for your Practice or PCN.**

Yours sincerely,

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GP Cancer Lead

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Notes

- This project is covered by a comprehensive 'Data Processing Deed of Contract' which meets GDPR and all information governance regulations.
- A contract in place between Tower Hamlets CCG and C the Signs covers all other governance matters in relation to delivery of this project in BHR CCGs.
- This project has been approved by Respective CCG IG and Caldecott Guardians and received approval from the Practice DPA officers.
- Visit <https://cthesigns.co.uk/> or contact training@cthesigns.co.uk for more information.