## BNSSG Cancer Transformation: Early Diagnosis Update

## Implementation of Straight To CT following abnormal CXR : part of the Rapid Diagnostic Pathway for Lung Cancer

The purpose of this pathway is to streamline the early part of the diagnostic pathway for lung cancer, it starts at the point of referral for chest X-ray (CXR).

All patients should be encouraged to attend for CXR within 72hours and be made aware that they may be contacted by secondary care for further tests if their CXR findings are unclear. All GP requested CXRs should be reported within 24hours.

If the CXR is suspicious for lung cancer then this will result in the patient being booked for CT (reflex CT) which will be arranged by the trust.

Initially all patients being booked for CT will also be booked for a 2WW outpatient appointment to discuss the results. It is crucially important that GPs complete a two week wait referral form for these patients to ensure our hospital colleagues have the information they need to manage these patients when they are seen in clinic. The trust will contact the practice to request that this is sent.

There will be an updated leaflet for all trusts detailing how to attend for an XR and this will include information for the patient detailing the above process. This patient information leaflet will be accessed via the Remedy Referral Support Tool. Please give this to patients at the point of requesting a CXR.

**The process:**

**1. GP requests CXR and gives patient the information leaflet**

**2. Patient attends for CXR which is reported within 24hours**

**3. If CXR is suspicious for cancer the trust will act on this to organise and inform patient of the need for an urgent CT, other CXR findings will be returned to the GP for management.**

**4. For patients on this pathway the GP will receive the report and be contacted by the trust to send an urgent 2ww referral**

**5. Patient attends for CT and 2WW outpatient appointment.**

**6. GP will be advised of CT findings and subsequent management**

We encourage all CXR referrers to include clinical information felt to be pertinent for the interpretation of CXR findings and decisions about onward management. Clear clinical history and examination findings on a request may make the difference as to whether the patient is fast-tracked or not. If a patient has also made it clear that they do not want further investigation beyond a CXR or it is deemed not appropriate for them to have this then please also note this on the request.

**This pathway is now available at NBT, UHB and Weston.**