



EDUCATIONAL NEWSLETTER PAEDIATRIC ONCOLOGY

ISSUE 2 - OCTOBER 26

Welcome to Issue 2 of the Paediatric Oncology Education Newsletter.

Since our first edition, there has been lots happening across the region, with continued collaboration, shared learning and new opportunities to support the development of our paediatric oncology workforce.

In this issue, we're pleased to share some of the progress from the Educational Strategy and milestones achieved via the Workforce & Education Working Group. There is a spotlight of successes section on all the fantastic work colleagues are undertaking. A regular section in the future issues, details the upcoming education, training and development opportunities.

NW Pharmacy Education Sessions

We are delighted to introduce the NW Pharmacy Education Sessions, a new series of monthly learning opportunities bringing together pharmacy colleagues from Principal Treatment Centres (PTCs) and Paediatric Oncology Shared Care Units (POSCUs) across the region.

Sessions will rotate across different days during the second week of each month, helping colleagues with different working patterns to participate.

The sessions aim to strengthen regional pharmacy networks, share specialist expertise and increase access to learning relevant to paediatric oncology pharmacy practice. The *November session will be on Supportive care for Haem/Onc Patient*.

Please share with pharmacy colleagues across your teams who may be interested in joining or contact info.nwccodn@mft.nhs.uk to be added to the teaching sessions.

Regional CYP Neuro-Oncology Study Day 2026

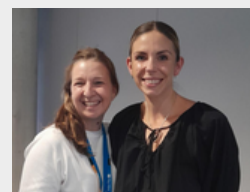
The second Regional CYP Neuro-Oncology Study Day

brought together 54 delegates to strengthen multidisciplinary knowledge, promote interactive learning and support regional collaboration in the care of children and young people with brain and spinal tumours.

The event achieved an excellent 4.87/5 satisfaction score, with 87% rating it as excellent.

All respondents said they would recommend the study day, and 100% rated the content as relevant or very relevant to their clinical practice.

Delegates particularly valued the hydrocephalus and shunt sessions, interactive demonstrations, parent perspective, MDT discussions and specialist speakers. Future topics to be considered were around emergency neuro-oncology presentations, community and shared-care management, radiotherapy and proton beam therapy.



Innovative AI Communication Skills Training

NWCCODN, in partnership with Greater Manchester Cancer Alliance and Recourse: AI, is developing a paediatric oncology-specific AI communication skills training resource. **Want to get involved in developing this? Email us!**

Using realistic simulated clinical conversations, staff will be able to practise challenging communication, receive feedback and build confidence in a safe, repeatable learning environment. The training is being shaped by workforce needs and will support the NW Children's Cancer Education & Training Strategy 2026-2028.



Spotlight of Successes



Since our last newsletter, there have been many achievements worth celebrating across the network.

This issue shines a spotlight on just a small selection of the fantastic work taking place by colleagues. Thank you for your continued efforts in professional development and for transferring learning into the wider teams.

🌟 Alder Hey Foundations Study Day Success

The Alder Hey Foundations Study Day, held in June 2026, was a fantastic success, bringing together 56 attendees, including 36 colleagues from Shared Care Centres.

The day received an excellent overall rating of 4.75 out of 5, with feedback highlighting the knowledge and passion of the speakers, interactive learning and valuable insight into solid tumours, clinical trials and research.

"Incredibly informative. Amazing professionals with so much knowledge. Very appreciative that I have been able to learn from this course."

The study day is a great example of education bringing colleagues together and sharing specialist knowledge across the wider network.

🌟 Pharmacy Successes

There has been lots to celebrate within paediatric oncology pharmacy, with colleagues sharing expertise and showcasing their work at both regional and national events.

Highlights include:

- Sarah Brett, Lead Pharmacist, SHCG MFT, has been integral to the success of the Care Closer to Home project in RMCH. Her and the team are currently exploring scope expansion.
- Rachel Ruddin, Senior Pharmacist at Alder Hey, had her audit accepted for an oral presentation at the CCLG Supportive Care Study Day (Sept).
- Jen Edwards, Principal Paediatric Haematology/Oncology Pharmacist, presented the CCLG guideline on Allopurinol with Mercaptopurine in ALL maintenance at the CCLG Supportive Care Study Day.
- Rachael, Jen and Katie had posters accepted for the NPPG Conference on 9–10 October, providing another opportunity to showcase their work.

🌟 Promoting Care Closer to Home Globally at SIOP: International Society of Paediatric Oncology

Caroline Cleaver, Michelle Riding, Dr Lisa Howell and Katharine Field had the opportunity to attend the international conference.

Caroline Cleaver, Specialist Oncology Nurse, presented the Care Closer to Home (CC2H) project to the international audience, describing the experience as a privilege.

"Presenting at SIOP 2026 to an international audience was an incredibly rewarding and memorable experience, particularly because I had the opportunity to share a project which I am truly passionate about."



Caroline reflected on the value of learning from colleagues working across different countries, healthcare systems and cultures. The nursing programme provided opportunities to share experiences, explore innovative approaches to care and consider how learning could be brought back into practice.

"The knowledge gained will support me in strengthening communication with patients and families and contributing to improvements in the quality, safety and consistency of care."

Attendance highlighted the value of the professional connections made through SIOP and the importance of sharing learning with colleagues across the team and organisation.

Educational Opportunities

More information and direct links on the ODN website: **All events require registration*

Event	Date	Location	Type
RMCH POSCU Updates	29th October 2026	RMCH, Manchester FT, UK	Locality
RMCH Care of the Childre with Cancer	2nd & 3rd November 2026	RMCH, Manchester FT, UK	Locality
London Global Child Cancer Week (webin.	3rd November 2026	Virtual (CCLG)	National Webinar
Alder Hey SACT Study Day	6th & 7th November 2026	Alder Hey Children's Hospital, UK	Locality
Paediatric Oncology Training Group	28th & 29th November 2026	Cardiff (CCLG)	National Event
RMCH SACT Study Day	8th & 9th December 2026	RMCH, Manchester FT, UK	Locality
NW CTYA Cancer Conference	18th March 2027	Greater Manchester, UK	Regional
CCLG Annual Cancer Conference	19th & 20th April 2027	Birmingham	National conference

CCLG's Paediatric Oncology Training Group 28 & 29/11/26

Open to trainees with an interest in paediatric oncology, the programme will explore the patient journey from diagnosis and treatment through to survivorship, bereavement support and trainee wellbeing. In Cardiff on 28–29 November 2026

[Register now – Paediatric Oncology Trainees Group Weekend 2026 – Clayton Hotel, St Mary Street, Cardiff](#)



Stem Cell Transplant Study Day 27/1/27

Secure your place and explore the stem cell transplant journey, including *What is Transplant?*, *Who Gets an Autologous Transplant?*, stem cell collection, nutrition, late effects and transplant complications.

Delivered by a multidisciplinary team of experts in Alder Hey Children's Hospital NHS FT, this is an excellent opportunity to enhance knowledge, share best practice and build confidence in caring for children and young people undergoing stem cell transplantation.



Book via QR code

NW Children's & TYA Cancer Conference 18/3/27

[Register now for NWCTYA27](#)

Join colleagues from across Children's and TYA cancer services on Thursday 18 March 2027 at etc.venues Manchester for a free day of learning, collaboration and innovation. The programme will cover service innovation, clinical developments, workforce, research, survivorship, patient and family experience, and quality improvement.



Module via C&M Cancer Alliance Academy

Cheshire & Merseyside Cancer Alliance have recently launched a Paediatric Weight Management training module, to help you understand the importance of discussing weight and physical activity with children, young people, and their families at the earliest opportunity. You'll also discover practical resources to support compassionate, person-centred conversations in clinical practice. A certificate of completion is awarded once the module has been completed.

Access the training via the link [C&M CA Learning Academy](#).

Simply enrol to begin the module and learn at your own pace.



Get In Touch: This newsletter is a shared resource, and contributions are warmly welcomed from across the network. We encourage colleagues to suggest topics or themes, share examples of good practice or service development, promote education events or learning opportunities.



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