NHS
North East and Yorkshire
Genomic Medicine Service

Genomics News

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June 2023

Hello and welcome to the June edition of 'Genomics News'

It's been a busy couple of months, as we wrap up some of our projects for 2022/23 and start to initiate new ones, hosted a visit from David Webb, Chief Pharmaceutical Officer for England, and celebrated International Nurses Day and the International Day of the Midwife in May.

We've also generated interest from people wanting to join our Patient and Community Forum, as a result of our campaign, and received lots of engagement in our project to improve our website. Thanks very much to everyone for their contributions.

The highlights in this issue:

- Genomics roadshows – look out for one coming to you soon
- Reflections on the fetal genomic transformation project
- An update on our Lynch syndrome project
- Photos from David Webb's visit
- Familial hypercholesterolaemia – it's a family affair
- The results of new research into mitochondrial disease
- Educational resources and events

You can also help spread the word about genomics, by following us on social media – and by telling your friends and colleagues about what you learn at every step of your genomics journey.

Please get in touch (hello.neygenomics@nhs.net) if you have a story to share and look out for our new podcast series coming soon.

News

Seminar Series: When Genomics Unexpectedly Turned Up To Work...

We are hearing more and more about genomics in clinical practice. But what is it actually like when someone mentions genomics for the first time at work? And what about when you're expected to start understanding and using it as part of mainstream care?

As part of Genomics Conversation Week, North East & Yorkshire Genomic Medicine Service are visiting hospitals across the region, presenting a seminar that is a whistle-stop tour through the ways in which genomics is becoming part of our everyday working life, featuring reflections from different NHS professionals on their experiences with genomics and how it has changed their practice and care for patients.

Sign up for one of the limited spaces now:

Wednesday 21st June, 1.00pm - 2.00pm, Kaberry Lecture Theatre, Postgraduate Centre, Jubilee Wing, Leeds General Infirmary REGISTER

Tuesday 27th June, 2.00pm - 3.00pm, Lecture Theatre 2, Barnsley Hospital REGISTER

Friday 30th June, 1.00pm - 2.00pm, York Hospital (Grand Round – no registration required)

We will also be running information stalls each day at these venues – starting conversations as part of Genomics Conversation Week. So if you just want to drop by, say hello and chat to one of our team about the work being done in genomic medicine across the region and how you can access education and training opportunities, come and find us at Jubilee Wing in Leeds, the Canteen in Barnsley and Main Reception in York.

Reflections; the Fetal Genomics Transformation Project

Lead midwife, Denise Barnes shares her reflections on leading a successful transformation project in fetal medicine.

Working as part of a multi-disciplinary team, Denise's work to map current pathways, share best practice and develop educational resources is making a valuable contribution towards reducing inequity of access to genomic testing for families, who may be at higher risk of having a child with a genetic diagnosis.

Read more

Project update: Lynch syndrome

We're making good progress with our project to make sure that we are testing all the patients we should for potential Lynch syndrome (LS).

An estimated 200,000-300,000 people in the UK have LS, but only 5 per cent have been tested and diagnosed. Our Lynch syndrome project aims to improve the early detection of cancer, and access to personalised cancer care for people with Lynch syndrome.

Explore what we've done and what's next

Pleased to meet you!

We were absolutely delighted to host a visit to NEY GMS at the Newcastle upon Tyne Hospitals by David Webb, Chief Pharmaceutical Officer for England.

The meeting provided a great opportunity for pharmacy colleagues, from early years practitioners to senior clinicians working in genomic medicine as part of the multidisciplinary team, to learn about our work in pharmacogenomics and precision medicine.

Read more

FH – The Unseen Inheritance

Familial Hypercholesterolaemia or FH as it's more commonly referred to, is an inherited genetic condition that means your liver can't process cholesterol properly. This inability can lead to very high levels of cholesterol in your blood.

The condition is passed down through families, and is caused by variants (gene alterations) in one or more gene. If untreated, patients with FH have significantly increased risk of suffering from coronary heart disease at a very young age.

Judith Hayward, GP and NEY GMS Primary Care Lead, tells us more about the condition, and what we're doing to help diagnose and treat patients more quickly.

Read more

New research into mitochondrial disease published

Researchers have identified a link between harmful variants of the gene, TOP3A, and the severity of mitochondrial disease.

This information could lead to more accurate diagnoses for patients and help to ensure they receive the most appropriate care.

Read more

Celebrating the work of our nursing and midwifery colleagues in May

Julie Goodfellow, one of our Lead Genomic Nurses and Denise Barnes, Lead Midwife joined colleagues across the country in their celebrations for International Nurses Day and International Day of the Midwife.

See what Julie had to say here and watch Denise's message here.

Learning and Development

Upcoming Learning & Development opportunities

Pharmacy

- Introduction to genomics in pharmacy : CPPE

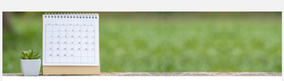
Midwifery

- GeNotes new module on Fetal and Women's Health
- Genomics in Midwifery

General

- Genomics 101

Upcoming Events



Events for your diary

- The LinkAGE (Linking Academia and Genomics Education) Webinar Series: Kaftrio changed the world of cystic fibrosis (12 June)
- 10th Annual Open Meeting UK Pharmacogenetics and Stratified Medicine Network (21 June)
- NEY REEF webinar series: Lynch syndrome (22 June)
- Mainstreaming Lynch Syndrome (A REEF webinar) (3 July)
- Familial Hypercholesterolaemia Gene Testing – 2023 Online Workshops (11 July)
- From Mendel to Mainstream – NHS Genomics in 2023 (Webinar - 18 July)
- Think Genomics: Primary Care Genomic Education Programme (various dates)

Follow us for the latest updates

The North East and Yorkshire NHS Genomic Medicine Service (GMS) brings together regional Clinical Partners, the Genomic Laboratory Hub (GLH) and the Genomic Medicine Service Alliance (GMSA). Partner Trusts. The Newcastle upon Tyne Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, The Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust, Sheffield Children's NHS Foundation Trust and Sheffield Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust.