



London Choosing Wisely:

Improving health outcomes for all Londoners

Programme update: March 2018

[London Choosing Wisely](#) is a clinically-led programme with the aim of developing agreement for a set of policies for eight treatments across London, to make sure they are used consistently across London and their use follows criteria that ultimately improves the health of patients.

The eight treatments are surgical removal of benign skin lesions; hip arthroplasty; knee arthroplasty; knee arthroscopy; interventional treatments for back pain; varicose vein procedures; shoulder decompression and cataract surgery. This programme was initiated with the support of CCG Chairs and Chief Officers at the end of 2017.

Review process

The London Choosing Wisely Steering Group met at the end of February to agree and finalise the review process for the programme and ensure its robustness. All five NHS Sustainability and Transformation Partnership (STP) clinical leads are represented on the Steering Group, alongside independent public health experts and patient representatives. In short, the following has been agreed:

Task and Finish Groups

Six Task and Finish Groups will lead the programme's review process for each policy (with hip and knee procedures combined). Each group will be chaired by a primary care clinical lead, who will also sit on the Steering Group. All groups will involve primary and secondary care clinicians and patient representatives from across the London region and also include representatives from at least three of London's STP areas.

Evidence and testing

Each Task and Finish Group will work to an agreed ethical framework to guide their discussion when reviewing policies. This framework will ensure consideration for the robustness of the evidence; the clinical effectiveness of the procedure/ treatment; the patient's experience; an equality assessment; and assessment of the interface with other services. It will also ensure that there is a consistent process across all six Task and Finish Groups.

Additionally, the clinical evidence review that is presented to each group will be quality assured by independent public health experts, ensuring that the latest and most robust research available has been considered. Draft policies will then be reviewed and tested by GPs, secondary care specialists, public health experts and CCG Referral Management Centres to ensure that they are worded clearly and are implementable.

Policy recommendations and decisions

Policies will then be presented to the London Choosing Wisely Steering Group for approval on the robustness of the review process. Importantly, decisions on pan London policies will be made by each individual CCG Governing Body which has statutory responsibility for approval.

Further support required

The programme is still looking for further support from our public health colleagues. If you would like to be involved, please do get in contact.

Contacting the London Choosing Wisely programme team

Healthy London Partnership, through its commitment to continually improving health outcomes for all Londoners, is facilitating the programme management and communications work of the programme.

For further information please contact the London Choosing Wisely programme team on:
hlp.londonchoosingwisely@nhs.net.