



Frequently asked questions:

Who are the Transforming Cancer Services Team?

The Transforming Cancer Services Team (TCST) was established in April 2014 to provide strategic leadership, clinical advice and to support the delivery of the National Cancer Strategy and subsequently the NHS Long Term Plan and the Personalised Care agenda. TCST works with key partners in London, including commissioners, STPs, UCLH Collaborative (London Cancer), Royal Marsden Partners, South East London ACN, Macmillan and other charities.

TCST is also part of the Healthy London Partnership, bringing together London's health and care system to deliver changes that are done best 'once for London'.

TCST's vision is that all Londoners have access to world class care before and after diagnosis.

Who can enter?

Any service providing rehabilitation or a physical activity programme(s) to cancer patients in London and West Essex is eligible to apply. Entries are welcome from professionals in the service themselves, as well as from patients who would like to enter a service they have accessed or are currently benefiting from. Joint entries from both staff and patients will be particularly well received!

How do I enter?

To enter simply complete the TCST Competition for Cancer Rehabilitation 2019 entry form available [here](#). The entry form asks a few basic questions about your service and then asks:

1. What makes our service personalised to our patients?
2. What do our patients say about our service?

Please send all entries to england.tcstlondon@nhs.net by no later than **10am Monday 11th March** and put TCST Competition for Cancer Rehabilitation as the subject title.

Can I enter more than one category?

There is no limit on how many categories you can enter, we just ask you to submit a separate entry for each category and that you tailor each entry to the specific area.

How much should I write?

There are no restrictions on how much or how little you can write, but we imagine most entries will be in the region of 250-600 words. Please do include reference or links to any other evidence you would like us to consider as part of your entry, for example testimonials/direct feedback from patients or other key partners. Please also avoid using acronyms in your entry and write descriptions out in full.



How can I make my entry stand out? Tell me what you're really looking for?

Our TCST Competition for Cancer Rehabilitation aims to recognise, celebrate and share services which deliver truly personalised care for their patients. What our judges will be looking for is evidence of personalised care which provides real improvement in outcomes and experience for patients. Innovative practices and new ways of working, particularly around workforce and pathways, will also make your entry stand out.

When thinking about impact, it might be helpful to think about how your service might improve self-management or facilitate discharge from hospital and reduce length of stay for patients. Your service might enable care to be provided closer to home, help prevent admission to hospital and/or help to reduce the number of GP appointments or outpatient attendances. Evidence of the economic benefit of your rehabilitation will be particularly well received.

We strongly encourage inclusion of direct patient feedback, testimonials, or other relevant data which demonstrates the impact of your service. You might find it helpful to consider personalised care as outlined in the NHS Long Term Plan when thinking about your entry. You might also find our service improvement tools for cancer rehabilitation useful when completing your entry, which are available [here](#).

I have applied for another competition or award – can I use the information provided in that?

If you have entered your service in to any other competitions/awards/reports or similar, you might find it helpful to use some of that information in answering the two main questions which form the basis of the entry to this competition, where the details and evidence are relevant.

Who will judge the entries? What will be the judging process?

Our highly esteemed panel of judges represent a breadth of knowledge and experience across cancer rehabilitation. The panel includes the expertise of two patients with extensive experience of cancer rehabilitation services, as well as expert professional representation from both the national and local perspective.

Our judges will use an objective marking criteria framework for each entry and the judging process will take place between the 11th – 15th March, with the winners announced shortly afterwards.

My service is a winner ... what will we receive?

In addition to winning a prize for the entered category, each winning service will be showcased as a case study of best practice in the upcoming TCST Commissioning Guidance for Cancer Rehabilitation. Each winning service will also receive a bespoke support package from TCST, to help promote your service across the



region and nationally, in order to share best practice. This will include support in applying for national awards, (for example the 2019 Chief Allied Health Professions Officer's Awards) and conferences, and other promotional opportunities with TCST.

Why should I enter my service?

If everything so far hasn't been enough to convince you to enter your service ... we know how many fantastic cancer rehabilitation services there are in London and West Essex. We believe they deserve celebrating, and provide a brilliant opportunity for other services to learn from.

When will we hear if we've been successful?

Winners will be announced by 18th March 2019 and you will be notified via email. Announcements will also be made on our social media channels:



#CancerRehabLDN2019

@TCST_London

Who do I contact if I have a question or a comment?

If there is anything we have missed in this guidance or if you have any questions, please get in touch with TCST's Living With and Beyond Cancer team via Sophie Lansdowne, Macmillan Project Manager. Sophie can be reached on england.tcstlondon@nhs.net or on 0113 825 2870.