



Inflatable Body Organs

Case Study - Lumps & Bumps' Cancer Screening Awareness Event

On 22nd September 2015 we held our 'Lumps & Bumps' Cancer Screening Awareness Event. The event was run following the disappointing data taken from the LDSAF which showed that the uptake of cancer screening for people with learning disabilities was below 30% for each of the main cancer screens. We aimed to raise awareness and understanding of the main cancer screens and look at what barriers face people with a learning disability.

The event was held at Bulkington Village Centre and was attended by over 80 people with learning disabilities and their family/carers. "Lumps and Bumps" was funded by WNCCG and Public Health Warwickshire. It was co-hosted by a gentleman with learning disabilities who sits on the learning disability partnership board and by Coventry and Warwickshire Partnership Trust Director of Nursing and Quality, Tracey Wrench, who also opened the event.

We held an interactive cancer screening quiz as an ice breaker to the day and to get people thinking and then had a presentation from a breast care nurse. A lady with learning disabilities who has had breast cancer was supported to tell her story to encourage others to attend their screening. This also highlighted how the learning disability teams can support people through this journey and work together with primary care for positive outcomes.

We ran workshops on cervical screening, bowel screening, breast screening and testicular and prostate screening. We also provided accessible information packs with easy read information. We offered mini health checks and had numerous information stands around general health and numerous games, word searches and mini quizzes. Our links with local breast care nurses meant that we could also offer 1:1 sessions with a breast care nurse for those with more personal questions or for people who struggle to learn within a group environment.

A big contribution to the event's success was the Inflatable, educational walk through colon which was hired from Inflatable Body Organs. This enabled an interactive and fun learning environment to deliver the message of what a healthy and unhealthy colon looks like.

We received some really positive feedback from attendees and were asked for more events in the future. We were told by some attendees that they felt more comfortable and confident to attend their screens now that they understood exactly what was going to happen and had the appropriate accessible information to inform them. We took referrals on the day for any follow up support or work with regard to attending/accessing cancer screening. All attendees loved the Inflatable Colon.

Also as part of our follow up work we will be running a 12 week 'Top to Toe Health' group for people with learning disabilities. We have run this group before but we have now reviewed and updated the group. This starts in January and will now involve health checks and cancer screening sessions.

We are also linking in with the breast care leads in the area to run a Mammogram workshop/Group that will take place at George Eliot Hospital for a small number of ladies with a learning disability. This will involve an education session on breast screening and then a tour around the mammogram unit when it is closed so that the equipment and machines can be observed. There is also a suggestion that we have a breast screening champion with a learning disability to act as peer support and help encourage other ladies to attend their mammograms.

We are currently putting a plan together as to moving forward. The event was covered in Nuneaton News and also Warwickshire new online. You could also follow the event on Twitter - #LumpsAndBumps and on here you will see the positive responses we have received and also more photo's etc. For further information please contact: **Claire Geary**. LD Acute Liaison/Health Facilitation Nurse. Community Learning Disabilities Team: 07795 046 263

Bulkington Village Centre - Warwickshire Community Learning Disability Team, Coventry and Warwickshire Partnership Trust



Inflatable Body Organs provide innovative yet affordable health education tools in the form of inflatable body organs that can be purchased or hired for use in awareness campaigns, exhibitions, conferences and health related events.

Our inflatable body organs have a proven track record of increasing engagement with the general public, bringing awareness of the risks, signs and symptoms of cancer and an understanding of the importance of early diagnosis.

These inflatables can help people to make informed choices about their health and wellbeing. By allowing the public to take responsibility for their health and encouraging early diagnosis we are taking the first steps towards saving lives and money later down the line. The precautions we take now will impact our future.

Putting an animated twist on the very serious topic of cancer eases anxiety and opens the door to a more relaxed and enlightening discussion that can save lives.