

Chiesi (UK Limited) and Wirral Primary Care Collaborative Limited

Executive Summary

This summary has been written by Chiesi Limited with consultation and approval from the Collaborative Working Project Team, established with full representation of partners.

COPD Targeted Management, Early Intervention and Treatment (COMET)

Aim

To enable early COPD diagnosis and timely initiation of evidence-based pharmacological and non-pharmacological interventions to improve outcomes for participants of the Wirral Targeted Lung Health Check program.

The intended objectives of this collaborative project are to:

- Support Targeted Lung Health Check (TLHC) participants on the Wirral who are at high risk of having COPD based on symptoms, imaging and spirometry findings.
- To invite an identified cohort of TLHC participants at risk of having COPD to attend a diagnostic clinic which will provide patients with a comprehensive clinical assessment.
- Initiate evidence-based pharmacological and non-pharmacological interventions for newly diagnosed COPD patients with the goal of improving short, medium, and long-term health outcomes.

Intended Benefits

For patients:

- Earlier diagnosis of a previously undiagnosed respiratory disease, leading to appropriate and timely support with lifestyle modification (e.g. smoking cessation) to promote lung health.
- Early initiation of evidence-based COPD treatments has the potential to reduce symptom burden, improve health related quality of life, preserve/improve physical activity and prevent COPD exacerbations and further lung function decline.
- Early education, support and advice.
- A localised service providing care in a community setting.

For NHS:

- Early identification of patients with COPD that otherwise may not have presented to a healthcare resource until reaching an advanced stage when negative disease behaviours are established.
- Identification and diagnosis of COPD in an elective out-patient community setting, rather than in an acute care setting at the time of an exacerbation.

- Earlier initiation of evidence-based interventions with potential to improve short, medium, and long-term health outcomes.
- To relieve the pressure on capacity in Primary Care across the Wirral with quality-assured, community based, equitable interventions
- Improved understanding of the clinical characteristics of COPD patients identified and diagnosed following Targeted Lung Health Checks, with the potential to inform future COPD screening initiatives and early COPD treatment protocols.

For the industry partner:

- Growth of the patient population eligible for COPD treatment.
- Increase in the appropriate use of medicines aligned to local or national guidance.
- Better understanding of the challenges faced by the NHS in delivering high-quality patient care.
- Reputational gain associated with supporting improvements in NHS services and care.

This involves a balance of contributions from both parties with the pooling of skills, experience, and resources.

The project will last 18 months and will commence November 2024.