

NIHR Greater Manchester PSTRC

Plain English Publication Summary

Publication: [The development of a decision aid to support Hodgkin lymphoma survivors considering lung cancer screening](#)

Publication details (Vancouver format)

Broadbent, R., Seale, T., Armitage, C.J. et al. The development of a decision aid to support Hodgkin lymphoma survivors considering lung cancer screening. BMC Med Inform Decis Mak 22, 29 (2022).

What are the most important findings/conclusions in this paper? Why are they important?

The online survey showed that the decision aid improved participants' knowledge about lung cancer screening and that it would help them to make a more informed decision if they were invited to have a lung cancer screening test.

From the focus groups and interviews, we discovered that the language in the decision aid was easily understood, but we also identified some content which could be confusing.

Although the aid was designed for patients, practitioners revealed it would also help them in their discussions with patients around lung cancer screening.

The findings from the ENGAGE-HL study helped to make changes to the decision aid to make it better suited to the needs of Hodgkin lymphoma survivors. For example, following the feedback we made changes to a section that had been identified as confusing.

What did you do?

In preparation for the study, we set up a steering group which included medical and non-medical professionals and researchers as well as several people who had been treated for Hodgkin lymphoma. The steering group developed a decision aid booklet which was evaluated in a study called ENGAGE-HL.

In the ENGAGE-HL study, we interviewed lymphoma practitioners, created an online survey for Hodgkin lymphoma survivors and ran two focus groups for Hodgkin lymphoma survivors. We recruited these participants using study adverts placed across the Lymphoma Action charity's social media accounts.

What did you do? (continued)

We asked participants for their views on our decision aid tool. Specifically, we wanted to know if there were any suggested improvements. The online survey included rating scales which Hodgkin lymphoma survivors completed before and after viewing the decision aid in order to find out if it helped them to feel more informed.

Why did you conduct this research?

We know that people treated for Hodgkin lymphoma with radiation to the chest or certain chemotherapies have a higher chance of getting lung cancer for up to 40 years after their treatment. For the best outcomes, lung cancer needs to be diagnosed as early as possible and the most effective way of doing this is through screening using a low-dose CT scan.

Publicly available information about lung cancer screening is aimed at people who have smoked. It doesn't explain why people treated for Hodgkin lymphoma – most of whom have not smoked heavily – would be at risk of lung cancer. We therefore felt there was a need to develop educational material specifically for Hodgkin lymphoma survivors who may wish to participate in a planned trial of lung cancer screening. We decided to develop a decision aid tool as they have been shown to help people make more informed decisions about screening.

What was known before your paper was published?

Before this paper was published we didn't know whether a lung cancer screening decision aid tool for Hodgkin lymphoma survivors would be considered acceptable and useful by patients and professionals.

What is next? What is the potential impact of the work in this paper? What will change as a result of this paper (or the study it describes)?

The final decision aid document has been given to people treated for Hodgkin lymphoma who have been invited to take part in a study of lung cancer screening. If the decision aid is shown to help people make informed decisions in this study, it may be used in larger studies of lung cancer screening for Hodgkin lymphoma survivors in the future.

Does this paper link in to a particular study / project? If so, please summarise the study and explain how this paper has improved understanding, or will move the study forward.

This paper is part of a larger project looking at whether it is possible to develop a lung cancer screening programme for people treated for Hodgkin lymphoma. The work done for this paper helped us feel confident that the decision aid tool could be used in the trial of lung cancer screening for Hodgkin lymphoma survivors.