

2014 Regional Workshops

Participant evaluations

The series of four regional workshops in Bristol, Manchester, Birmingham and London were seen by the vast majority of attendees as valuable, enjoyable and informative. Over 130 people attended the four events with 106 members representing 45 support groups. Some two-thirds of those attending provided feedback.

The table below shows scores out of 10 for various topics and facilities. The Q&A session was not assessed at Bristol.

Topic/Venue	Bristol	Manchester	Birmingham	London	Average
The Tackle Story	8.2	8.2	8.2	8.4	8.3
Quality Standards for PCa	7.7	8.0	7.8	9.2	8.1
Early Detection	7.8	7.8	8.5	8.8	8.3
Advanced Prostate Cancer	7.9	6.6	7.6	7.8	7.5
PCUK round-up of activities	8.2	7.6	8.4	8.1	8.1
Q&A session with clinicians	-	8.5	8.9	9.0	8.8

Venue Location	8.1	7.3	8.5	8.1	8.0
Organisation	8.4	7.6	8.8	8.7	8.4
Facilities	8.2	6.7	8.6	8.9	8.1
Refreshments	8.6	6.7	8.4	8.3	8.0

Of all the content sessions by far the most liked was the Q&A session held with clinicians, followed by Early Detection and Quality Standards. As many people also said they liked all the sessions and slightly more responded with “none” to the question about which sessions they liked least. Although Advanced PCa was well liked, as many liked it least, so opinion was clearly divided but the negative comments were mainly about the presentation and style rather than content.

There was strong support for continuing with these sort of regional workshops. Feedback was consistent on the positive and professional approach taken at the workshops, together with an appreciation that Tackle and PCUK were working closely together. Handouts were well received, rather than having to rely on note-taking. This time round we had to accept some limitations in the venues, where it wasn't always possible to have an ideal room set-up and we had some audio issues.

In terms of suggested topics and improvements, there was a desire to try and widen the attendance at such workshops. Topics that would be welcomed at future events included dealing with side effects of treatment (psycho-sexual, incontinence, impotence) as well as positive improvements such as diet, exercise, buddying and training to help others. This was particularly true in cases of advanced disease, helping those with a terminal illness or those that live alone.

Roger Wotton
Tackle Prostate Cancer
22 January 2015