

TOM PURSGLOVE MP
CORBY & EAST NORTHAMPTONSHIRE



HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

8th August 2018

Jew Contract.

RE: LYNCH SYNDROME AND BOWEL CANCER.

Thank you for contacting me recently about testing bowel cancer patients for Lynch syndrome; your comments upon which I read with great interest.

As you point out, testing for Lynch syndrome has been recommended by NICE as an important means by which to identify if someone has a genetic predisposition to bowel cancer. Therefore, this test could lead to better results for patients through earlier diagnosis or treatment. While testing is being carried out in some areas, I am aware that the guideline is not being followed by all clinical commissioning groups (CCGs), meaning that some patients and their families in our area are not receiving the test.

I am, however, encouraged that NHS England will be working with CCG pathology service commissioners during 2018/19 to jointly develop a policy position in relation to genetic testing for Lynch syndrome. This should take into account the NICE guidance and should ensure that patients and their families receive the test where appropriate.

Ensuring that people at high risk of cancer, or those with cancer, receive a quick diagnosis is so important. In relation to this, I recently met with Corby's Cancer Research UK Ambassador to discuss Cancer Research UK's Early Diagnostic Workforce Campaign and the particular needs in our area - something I have already raised with the East Midlands Cancer Alliance.

Once again, thank you for having taken the time to contact me and if I can ever be of any further assistance to you then please do not hesitate to contact me again.

With best wishes,

TOM PURSGLOVE MP
MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT
CORBY & EAST NORTHAMPTONSHIRE

LISTENING TO YOU - CAMPAIGNING FOR YOU

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