

Understanding Cancer

**A SERIES OF SIMPLE EDUCATIONAL VIDEOS
FOR THE GENERAL PUBLIC**



By Dr Hafsa Waseela Abbas

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*Part 17: Cancer Waiting Time and
programmes to diagnose early*

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***In our last video, we discussed the
role of screening and lung checks
as some of the ways to detect
cancer early.***



***There are also other ways of
diagnosing cancer early.***





THIS HELPS INCREASES SURVIVAL.



NHS Long Term Plan

#NHSLongTermPlan

The NHS Longterm Plan aims by 2028:

- **55,000 cancer patients have a survival rate of 5+ years following their diagnosis.**
- **3 in 4 patients are diagnosed early.**

GOAL!



Cancer Waiting Times



(CWT)



These standards monitors the length of time patients who:

- **have symptoms**
- **Suspected of having cancer**
- **Have been confirmed to have cancer**

They are seen and treated in England in a timely manner.

Cancer Waiting Times



(CWT)



This helps manage care plans for cancer patients.

Cancer Waiting Times



(CWT)



*Evaluate performance on how well the
process went.*

Cancer Waiting Times



(CWT)



Support patients in accessing cancer services.

Cancer Waiting Times



(CWT)



To further invest in cancer services.

Cancer Waiting Times (CWT)

This was first introduced in the NHS Cancer Plan in 2000 that aimed to ensure cancer patients were reviewed by specialists and were given expert advice.



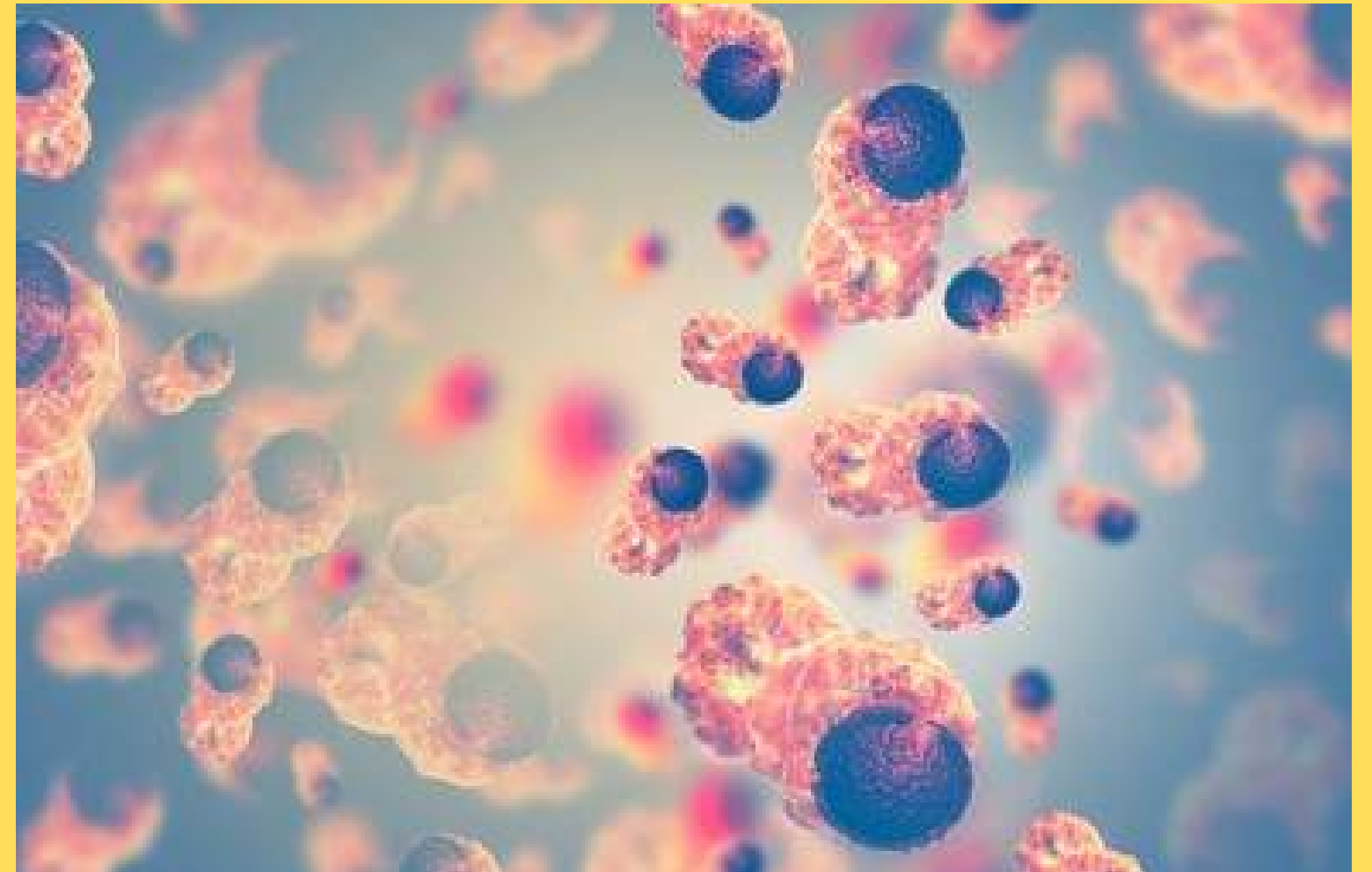
Cancer Waiting Times (CWT)

It is monitored by the National Cancer Waiting Times Monitoring Dataset (NCWTMDS) to ensure that all cancer service providers follow this standard in NHS England.



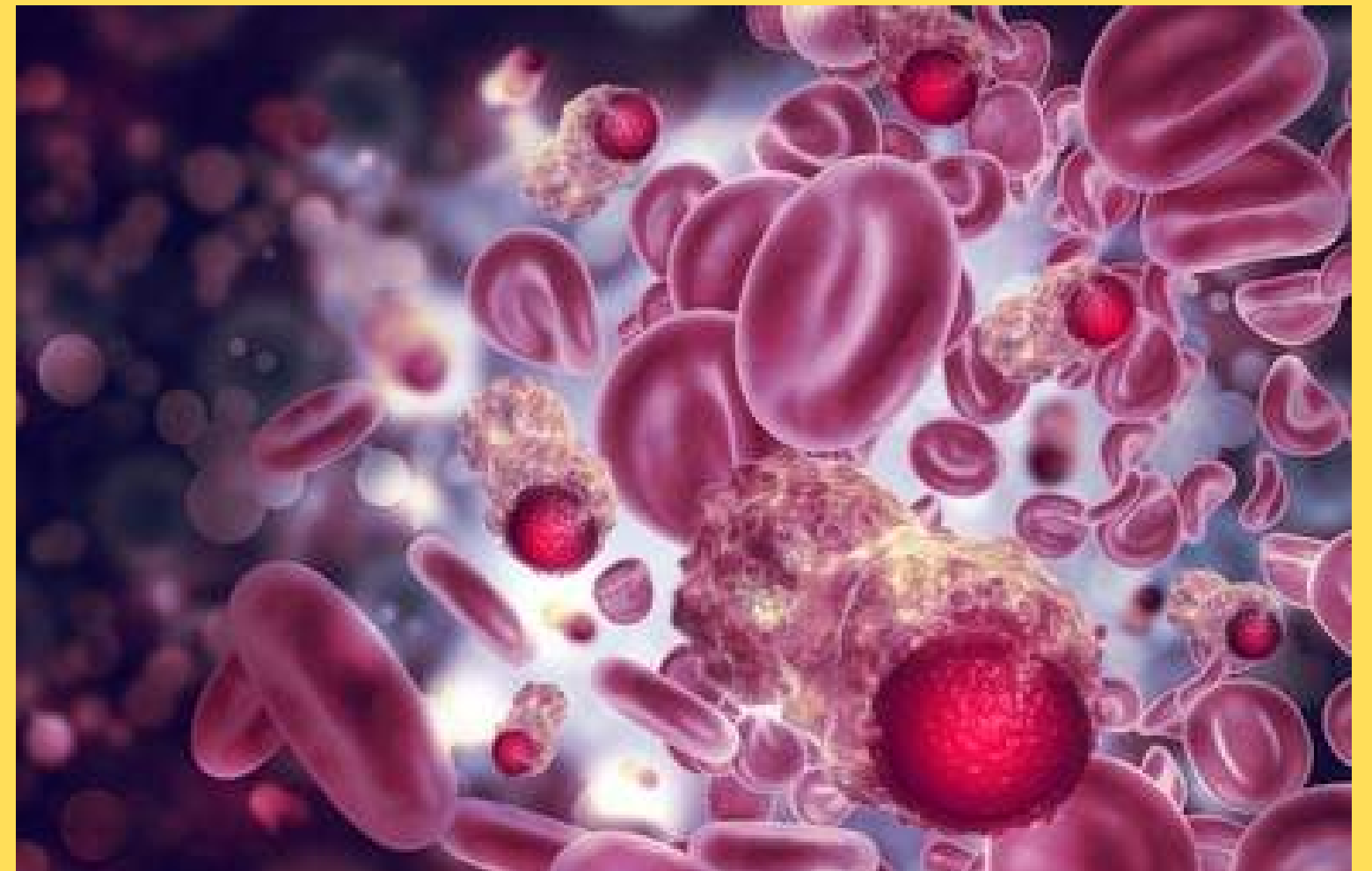
Cancer Waiting Times (CWT)

***There are waiting time
targets to detect and
treat cancer.***



Cancer Waiting Times (CWT)

***However, a few
cancers vary so targets
depend on type of
cancer and treatment.***



Faster Diagnostic Standard.

***Further developments were made leading
to Faster Diagnostic Standard.***

***Since April 2020, 28 days to confirm
diagnosis.***

Faster Diagnostic Standard.

***This is applied in England
but not set in other UK
nations at the moment.***



Faster Diagnostic Standard.

It is for those who had:

- the urgent 2 weeks referral**
- an abnormal result in the screening programmes**

What are the CWT targets?

INITIAL ASSESSMENT

Two weeks target from urgent GP referral for suspected cancer to first outpatient appointment.

INITIAL ASSESSMENT

If cancer is NOT suspected but symptoms are PRESENT also have two week target from GP referral to first assessment.

DIAGNOSIS

28 days to be informed of diagnosis whether cancer is present or not from:

- urgent GP referral for suspected cancer.**
- urgent referral from NHS Cancer Screening Programmes (breast, cervical and bowel).**
- urgent GP referral with breast symptoms (where cancer is not suspected).**

DIAGNOSIS

9 in every 10 people (90%) referred for suspected or symptoms of cancer will not have a diagnosis of cancer.

DIAGNOSIS

Some UK nations: Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland do not have the 2 week time frame to see a specialist.

But you are still able to see a specialist.

DIAGNOSIS

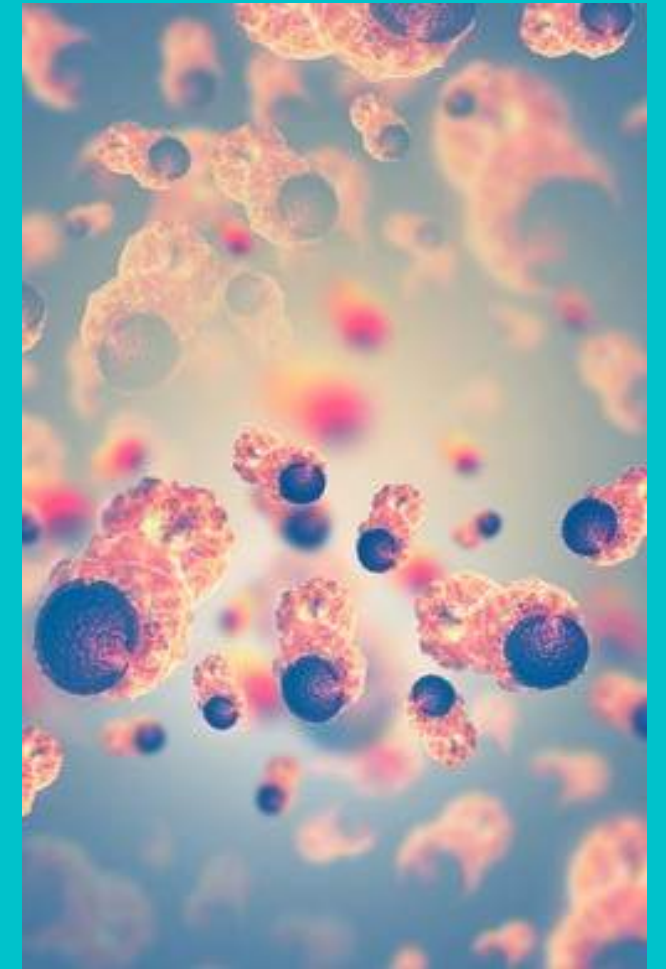
Northern Ireland the 2 week wait only applies for suspected breast cancer.



FIRST TREATMENT FROM G.P REFERRAL

62 days from urgent GP referral to first treatment for:

- *Suspected cancer*
- *Abnormal result from NHS Cancer Screening Programmes*
- *Consultant's decision following a non-urgent referral) due to a suspicion of cancer.*



FIRST TREATMENT FROM G.P REFERRAL

31 days from urgent GP referral for
children's cancers, testicular cancer,
and acute leukaemia.

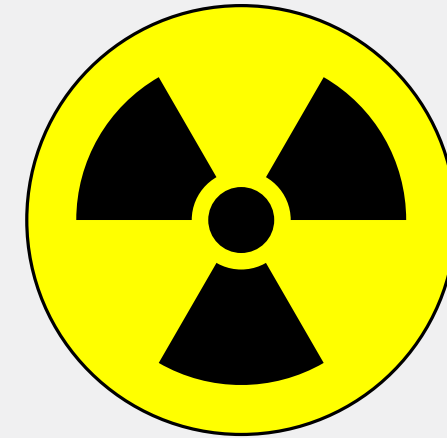


FIRST TREATMENT FROM DIAGNOSIS

**31 days from diagnosis to the first
treatment for all cancers after
discussion with the doctor on the
treatment plan.**

FURTHER TREATMENT

*31 days from decision to
treat to second or further
treatment (chemotherapy,
surgery or radiotherapy).*



FURTHER TREATMENT

**DIFFERENT ISLES (WALES,
SCOTLAND, IRELAND) HAVE
ALSO SET TARGETS ON
REFERRAL FOR A SUSPECTED
CANCER AND WAITING FOR A
DIAGNOSIS.**



**How do you feel when
waiting for
something generally?**

**How do you think the
cancer patient feels
when waiting for...**

THE WAIT

Waiting for an appointment to:

- take tests.
- find out results.
- start treatment.





**It can cause a series
of emotions for the
patient and their
family.**



THE WAIT

Most cancers are slow growing so waiting a few weeks does not affect treatment.



THINK!



What is the reason for the wait?



THE WAIT

- *The demand of people requiring particular scans.*
- *The availability of scans in particular or large hospitals.*



THE WAIT

After doing tests, there is also a waiting period.



THE WAIT

The radiologist needs to create a report on the scan that is sent to an oncologist.



THE WAIT

**An oncologist is a
doctor that
specialises in cancer.**



THE WAIT

Despite urgent it may take a few weeks for the result.



WALES

In May 2019, Wales introduced the Single Cancer Pathway.

A target of 62 days or less is for urgent and non-urgent referrals to have a confirmed diagnosis and start treatment from the GP referral.



What if the cancer comes back develops?

***NHS England states that treatment should begin
within 31 days after discussion with doctor and an
agreed treatment plan is placed.***

***Other UK nations have not set this target but
treatment would start urgently.***

***What if a new tumour
develops?***

***62 DAYS TO START
TREATMENT SINCE GP
REFERRAL***



Rapid Diagnostic Centres

**This has been developed by Cancer Research
UK and Macmillan Cancer Support.**



Rapid Diagnostic Centres

**The aim is to SPEED diagnosis and
IMPROVE patient experience.**



HOW?

Rapid Diagnostic Centres

SUPPORT AMBITIONS.

Rapid Diagnostic Centres

EARLY IDENTIFICATION



Rapid Diagnostic Centres

TIMELY REFERRAL



Rapid Diagnostic Centres

SYMPTOM ASSESSMENT



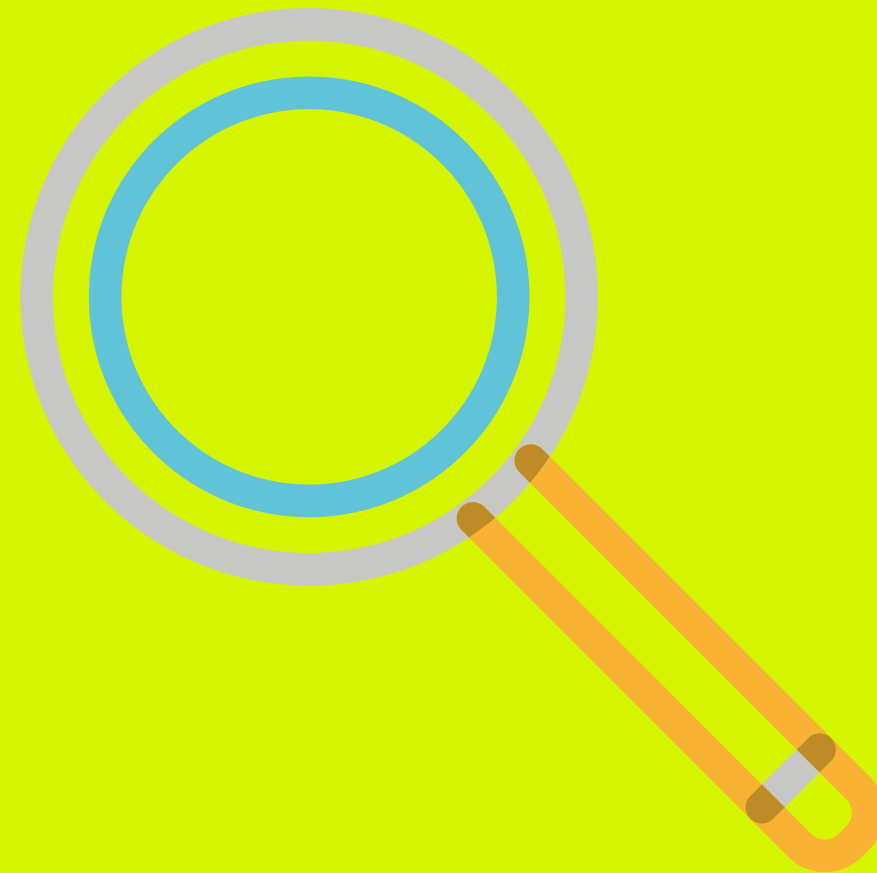
Rapid Diagnostic Centres

COORDINATING TESTING



Rapid Diagnostic Centres

TIMELY DIAGNOSIS.



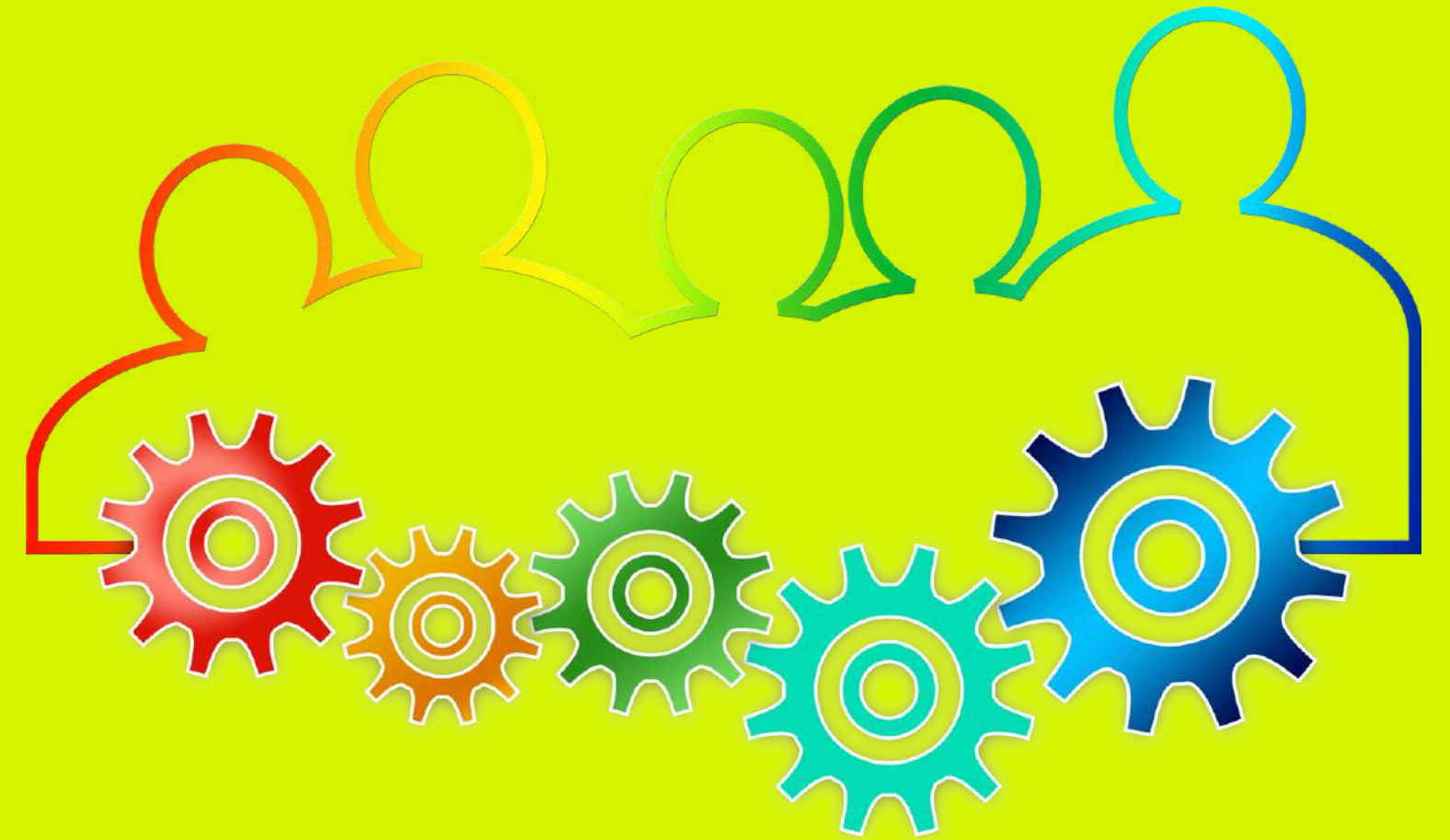
Rapid Diagnostic Centres

**ONWARD
REFERRAL.**



Rapid Diagnostic Centres

**EXCEL SUPPORT
AND
COORDINATION.**



Benefits?



**Target and decrease
inequalities.**

Benefits?



Decrease unnecessary appointments and tests in laboratory testing and imaging.

Benefits?



Invest in new equipments.

Benefits?



**Decrease variation or
change in referral.**

Benefits?



Offer staff development opportunities and work in new ways.

**MOST PATIENTS SEEN
WILL NOT HAVE
CANCER!**



**Network contract
directed enhanced
service (DES)**

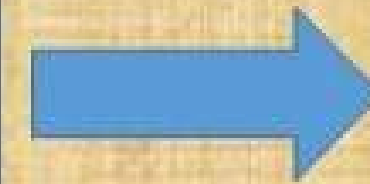
Primary Care

Your GP
Practice Nurse
Pharmacist
Optician
Dentist



Secondary Care

Hospital Clinic
Specialist Doctor
Physiotherapist
Dietician



Tertiary Care

National or Regional
Specialist Centre



Primary Care Network (PCN) aimed to focus on early diagnosis of cancer as a priority from 2020/2021.

YOU CAN!

The network also encourages the uptake of national cancer screening programmes.



PRIORITY

STAFF!

They are the backbone of the healthcare



STAFF!

CANCER ALLIANCES.

***MAKE A CHANGE, FOCUS AND IMPROVE CANCER
LOCALLY.***



STAFF!

CANCER WORKFORCE PLAN

***TO ENSURE THAT THERE IS A RIGHT
NUMBER OF STAFF WITH THE
NECESSARY SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE
TO PROVIDE HIGH QUALITY CARE AND
SERVICES TO CANCER PATIENTS FROM
WHEN THEY ARE REFERRED AND IN
EACH STAGE OF THEIR CARE.***



Be Clear on Cancer

It aims to improve early diagnosis of cancer by raising public awareness of signs and/ or symptoms of cancer.



Be Clear on Cancer

To encourage people to see their GP without delay.



Be Clear on Cancer

**The programme is led by Public Health England,
working in partnership with the Department of
Health and NHS England and Cancer Research UK**



Be Clear on Cancer

The campaigns are presented on media channels for 6 weeks.

They initiate locally, regionally and then nationally!



Dr Fionn Loftus



**Tell your
doctor**

**Get out of breath doing
things you used to be
able to do?**

It could be a sign of lung or heart disease,
or even cancer. Finding it early makes it
more treatable. So don't ignore it,
tell your doctor.



Search 'Be Clear on Cancer'



Dr Ian Watson



**Tell your
doctor**

**Been coughing for
3 weeks or more?**

It could be a sign of lung disease,
including cancer. Finding it early makes
it more treatable. So don't ignore it,
tell your doctor.



Search 'Be Clear on Cancer'

Margaret Underwood, 70,
cancer survivor



**1 in 3 women who get
breast cancer are over
70, so don't assume
you're past it.**

A lump isn't the only sign of breast cancer. If you notice any changes to your breasts, tell your doctor straight away. Finding it early makes it more treatable and could save your life.



nhs.uk/breastcancer70

Be Clear on Cancer

It is aimed for people aged over 50 who are at risk and the low socioeconomic groups who do not go to G.P often.



Be Clear on Cancer

The campaigns are evaluated by the National Cancer Registry and Analysis Service who create reports and metrics that reflect.



Be Clear on Cancer

Are they reaching the target audience?

Who are seeing the campaigns?

*Information on GP attendances and referral do they help
with early diagnosis?*



Overall, there are many ways the NHS and their partnerships are making an effort in trying to encourage patients who have symptoms and those who don't to either diagnose or rule out cancer.



29% increase in the number of diagnoses estimated between 2016 and 2028 by applying:

- **Faster Diagnostic Standard**
- **Improve screening programmes**
- **The use of new diagnostic techniques such as gene testing**
- **Primary care networks (PCN).**



**This will help deliver the
necessary treatment based
on results.**



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***Part 18: Other diagnostic techniques for
cancer***

UPCOMING VIDEO RELEASING SOON!

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Acknowledgements

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***Thank
you!***