

# NATIONAL CANCER DIAGNOSIS AUDIT

HELPING YOU REVIEW PRACTICE PROCESSES AND IMPROVE CANCER OUTCOMES



## WHAT IS THE AUDIT ABOUT?

The National Cancer Diagnosis Audit (NCDA) looks at patient pathways from first presentation to cancer diagnosis to:

- provide urgently needed data on the contribution of primary care to cancer diagnoses, which are not available nationally from any other source
- better understand the use of primary care-led investigations and referral pathways
- inform delivery of best care for cancer patients

Repeated rounds of the audit allow monitoring of the impact of changes at practice level, and ongoing reflection and quality improvement.

## WHY SHOULD YOU TAKE PART?

- Improve cancer care and outcomes for your patients
- Understand how your practice compares to other services
- Highlight and evidence good practice
- Identify diagnostic challenges
- Demonstrate quality improvement for GP appraisal, re-validation and CQC inspection



## WHAT WE'VE LEARNT SO FAR

- Burden of co-morbidities is high with 75% of cancer patients suffering from at least one co-morbidity and nearly half (46%) suffering from multiple co-morbidities
- GPs refer promptly (79% of patients referred to a specialist after fewer than three consultations)
- Half of patients diagnosed as emergencies (49%) had seen their GP in the same episode of illness, but nearly half (46%) had not
- GPs felt that one in five patients (22%) had experienced an avoidable delay on their pathway
- Many practices undertook quality improvement activities, often focusing on referral behaviours, safety netting or screening uptake



## HOW IT WORKS...

- You register for the audit online in early 2019
- We will give you a secure account and password to log into the online portal hosted by Public Health England (PHE)
- From April 2019, you will receive a monthly email notification if new cancer patients are added to your practice list by the Cancer Registry
- You submit information about the pathway for each patient, including: key dates, presenting symptoms, number of consultations, types of investigations, referral(s), and some patient characteristics



## WE OFFER...

- analysis of the data by PHE
- a tailored report for your practice and a quality improvement toolkit
- access to support from Cancer Research UK Facilitators and Macmillan GPs to review and discuss your results and plan quality improvement activity



Information governance and data release requirements will be met.



**I found the whole process incredibly easy and very informative...  
It is definitely worth doing and I am planning to do [it] again next year.**  
GP from Doncaster



For further information about the audit, visit [cruk.org.uk/ncda](http://cruk.org.uk/ncda)