

Virtual ANNUAL SUMMIT 2020

IMPROVING OUTCOMES NOW

Improving the Pathway from Diagnosis to Treatment, 29th Sept 2020, 9 – 11am

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The Latest in the Pathway from Diagnosis to Treatment

Dr Andrew Millar, Consultant Gastroenterologist and Hepatologist,
North Middlesex University Hospital and Joint NCL Cancer Alliance
Clinical Lead for Rapid Diagnostic Centres

The Latest in the Pathway from Diagnosis to Treatment

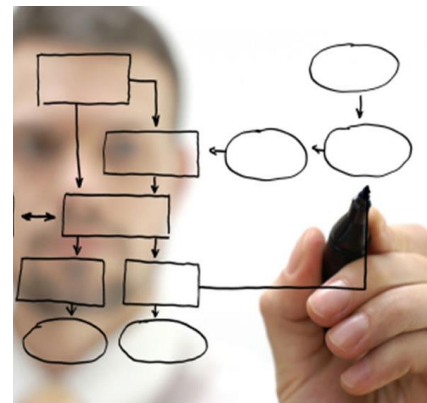
Dr Andrew Millar

Gastroenterologist and Hepatologist,

North Middlesex University Hospital

Clinical Lead RDC Project, NCL Cancer Alliance

- Funding - Gilead/Janssen/Norgine/Astra Zeneca
- Shareholder Medefer Ltd
- Director GI Diagnostics Ltd
- PCUK Advisory Board



We have two problems

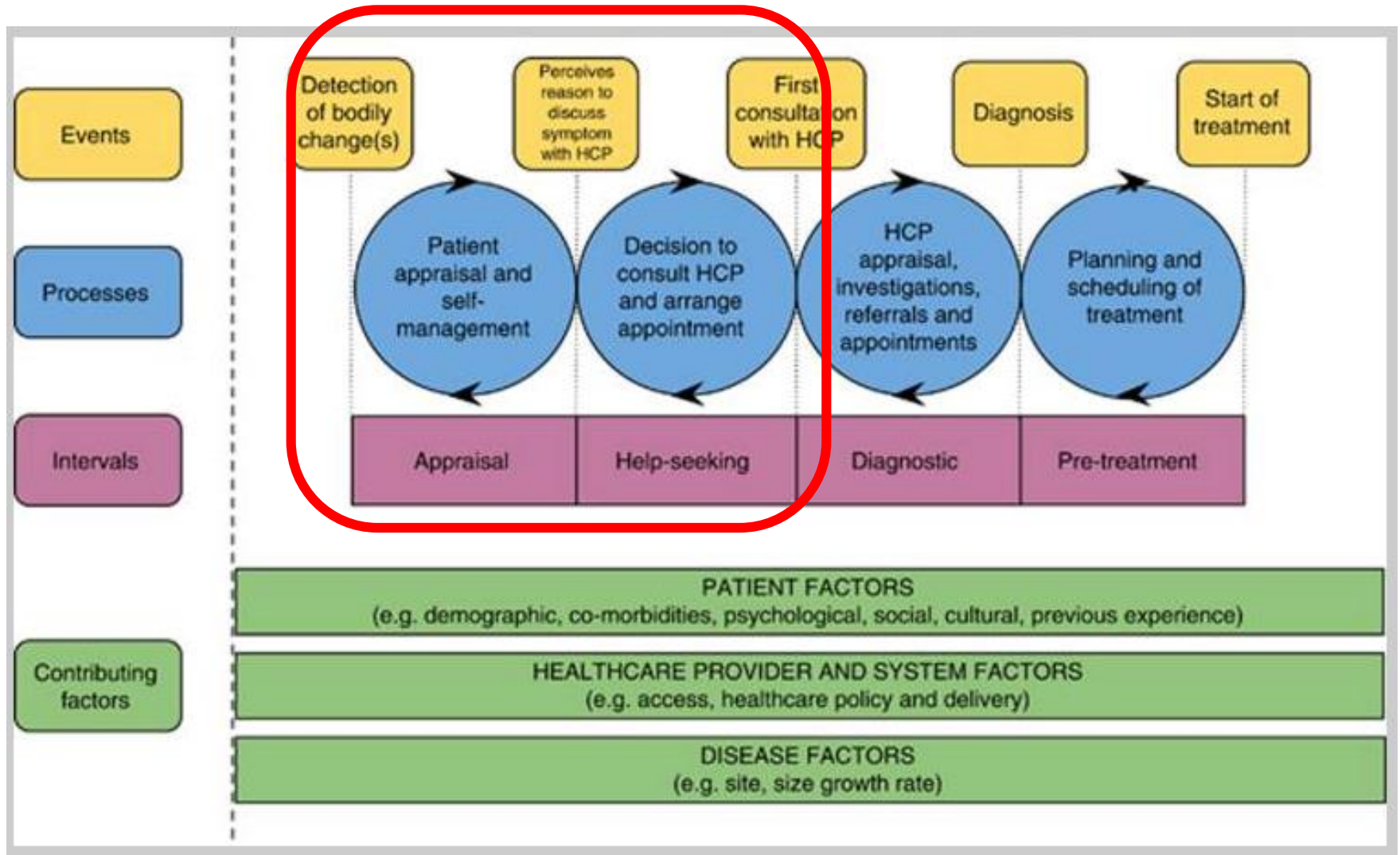
- 1) To speed and coordinate diagnosis for symptomatic patients.. and those with incidental findings**
- 2) To identify patients at higher risk of pancreatic cancer and safely prevent or cure their cancer**

What will be discussed today

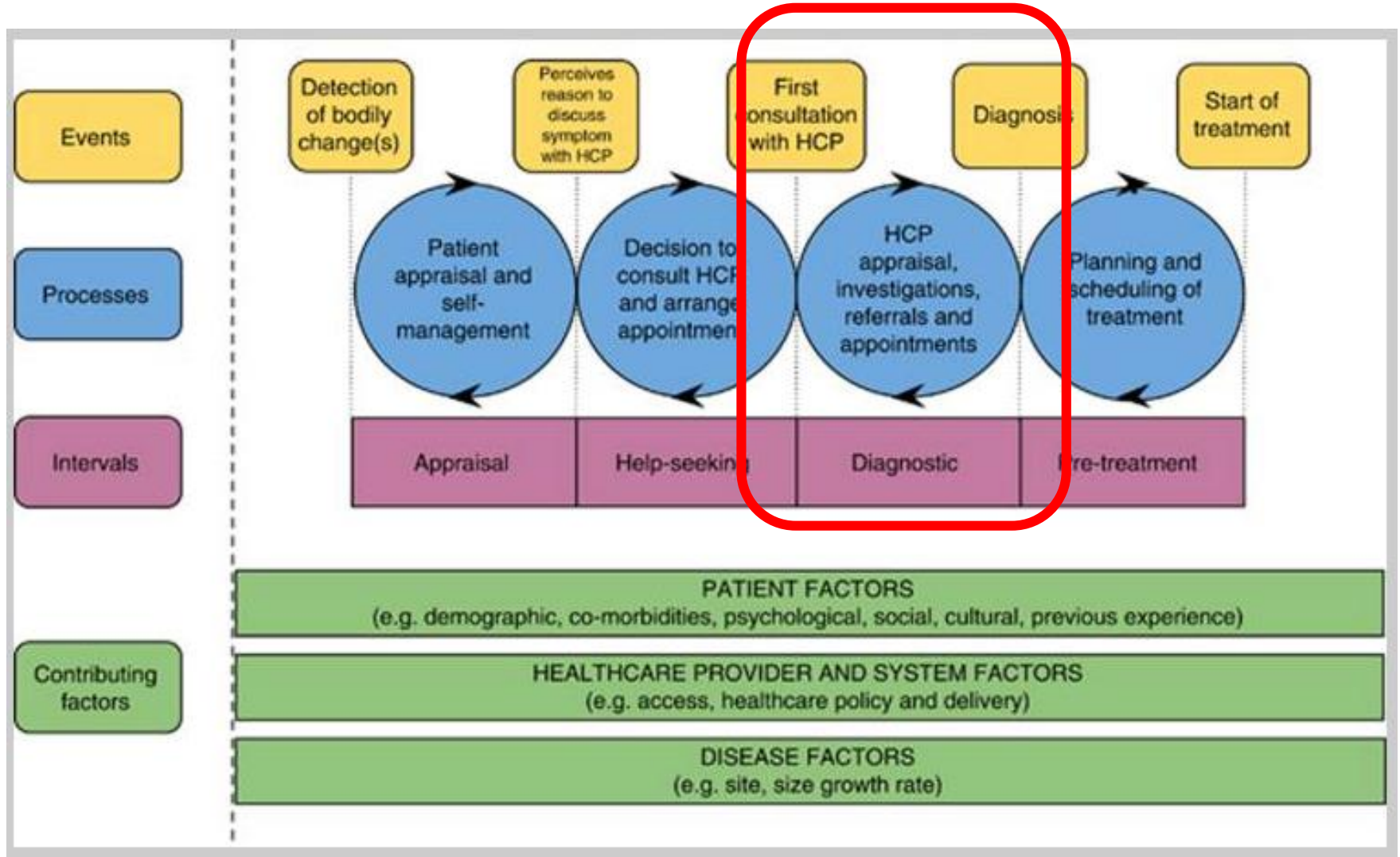
- Where is action needed in the symptomatic pathway?
- How to improve patients access to services?
- What is being done to improve referral to specialists?
 - Can RDCs support better referral pathways?
- What research is being done in this area?

Not discussing biomarkers - but much research in progress

Action by the Patient

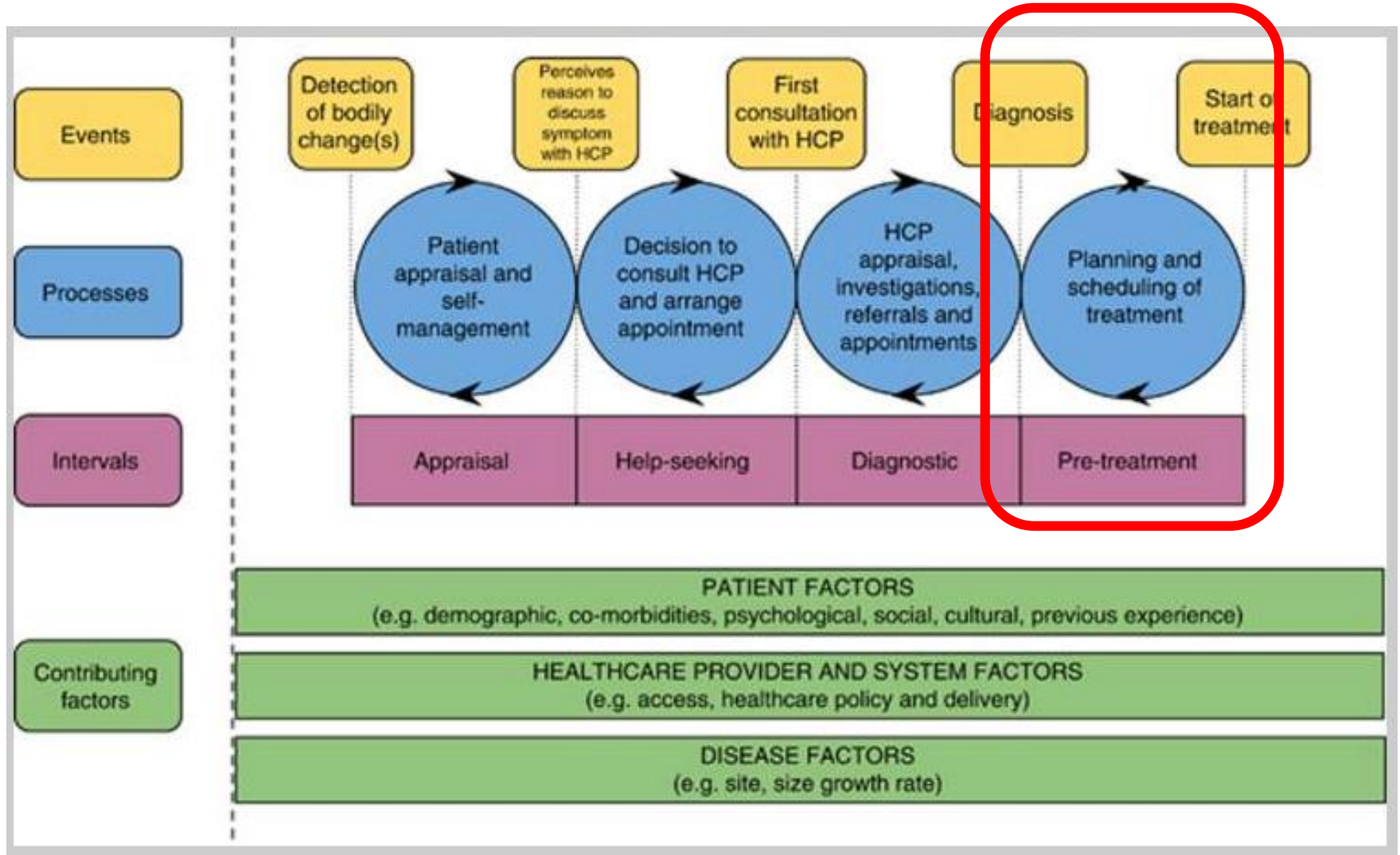


Action by Diagnosticians in Primary and Secondary Care



Action by the Treatment Team

North Central London
Cancer Alliance



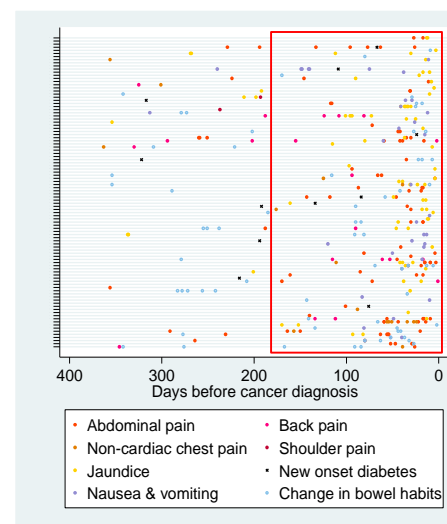
BMJ Open A case-control study comparing the incidence of early symptoms in pancreatic and biliary tract cancer

M G Keane,¹ L Horsfall,² G Rait,² S P Pereira¹

BMJ Open 2014;4:e005720.

- Anonymised data on > 8 million patients: 3,400 cases of PDAC (matched 6:1 with controls)
- 93% had relevant symptoms in the 2 years prior to diagnosis
- Patients attended their GP with relevant symptoms on average 3 (0-19) times

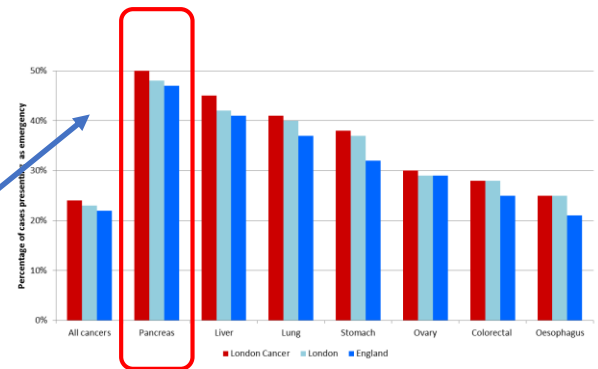
Symptom (%)	Biliary Tract cancer n=829	Pancreatic cancer n=2790	Controls n=17,192	Pancreatic cancer vs. Control OR*	95% CI	p-value
Weight loss	46 (5.5)	294 (10.5)	302 (1.8)	6.6	5.54,7.86	<0.001
Abdominal pain	309 (37.3)	1225 (43.9)	1946 (11.3)	6.38	5.81,7.02	<0.001
Nausea and vomiting	126 (15.2)	463 (16.6)	978 (5.7)	3.43	3.00,3.91	<0.001
Bloating	27 (3.3)	113 (4.1)	229 (1.3)	3.1	2.48,3.89	<0.001
Dyspepsia	118 (14.2)	559 (20)	1597 (9.3)	2.56	2.30,2.85	<0.001
New onset diabetes	48 (5.8)	380 (13.6)	1037 (6)	2.46	2.16,2.80	<0.001
Change in bowel habit	194 (23.4)	764 (27.4)	2557 (14.9)	2.17	1.98,2.39	<0.001
Pruritus	91 (11)	147 (5.3)	526 (3.1)	1.73	1.43,2.10	<0.001
Lethargy	71 (8.6)	293 (10.5)	1308 (7.6)	1.42	1.25,1.61	<0.001
Back pain	111 (13.4)	446 (16)	2111 (12.3)	1.33	1.18,1.49	<0.001
Dysphagia	10 (1.2)	51 (1.8)	254 (1.5)	1.21	0.90,1.64	0.206
Non-cardiac chest pain	114 (13.8)	335 (12)	2055 (12)	1.02	0.91,1.16	0.699
Shoulder pain	47 (5.7)	137 (4.9)	1052 (6.1)	0.78	0.65,0.93	0.006
Jaundice *	358 (43.2)	860 (30.8)	36 (0.2)	246	172,351	<0.001



Slide courtesy of Prof S Pereira, UCLH

Why diagnose symptomatic pancreatic cancer early?

- Progression time from stage T1 to T4 is just over 1 year ¹
- Tumours >2 cm to mets in mean of 3.5 (1.2–8.4) months ²
- Tumour growth is exponential – later growth is faster
- Early diagnosis increases survival³
- Psychological effects of late diagnosis
- Healthcare costs of late diagnosis
- Avoid emergency admissions – 50%



Source: PHE Route to Diagnosis 2006-2013 (2016)

¹Yu J, Blackford AL, Dal Molin M, et al. Gut. 2015;64(11):gutjnl-2014-308653

²J Gastrointest Cancer. 2017;48(2):164–169. doi:10.1007/s12029-016-9876

³Poruk KE et al. Ann Surg. 2013; 257: 17-26

³Neoptolemos JP et al. Nat Rev Gastroenterol Hepatol. 2018; 15: 333-348

Symptom Appraisal and Help-Seeking

- Promoted by charities and NHS
- No consistent NHS 'Be Clear on Cancer' for Pancreatic Cancer



APPG on Pancreatic Cancer



What is being done now to improve the referral pathway?

- Pancreatic Cancer in NICE guidelines from 2015
- GP systems 50% - integrate Q score decision tool*
- The ACE programme has led to RDCs mandated for all Alliances
- Increasing primary care access to diagnostics – future for Community Diagnostic Hubs
- RCGP Cancer Training Toolkits and E-Learning modules
 - Primary Care Cancer toolkit
 - Consequences of Cancer toolkit
 - Early Diagnosis of Cancer Significant Event Analysis toolkit
 - Early Diagnosis eLearning module
- Biomarkers on the horizon!

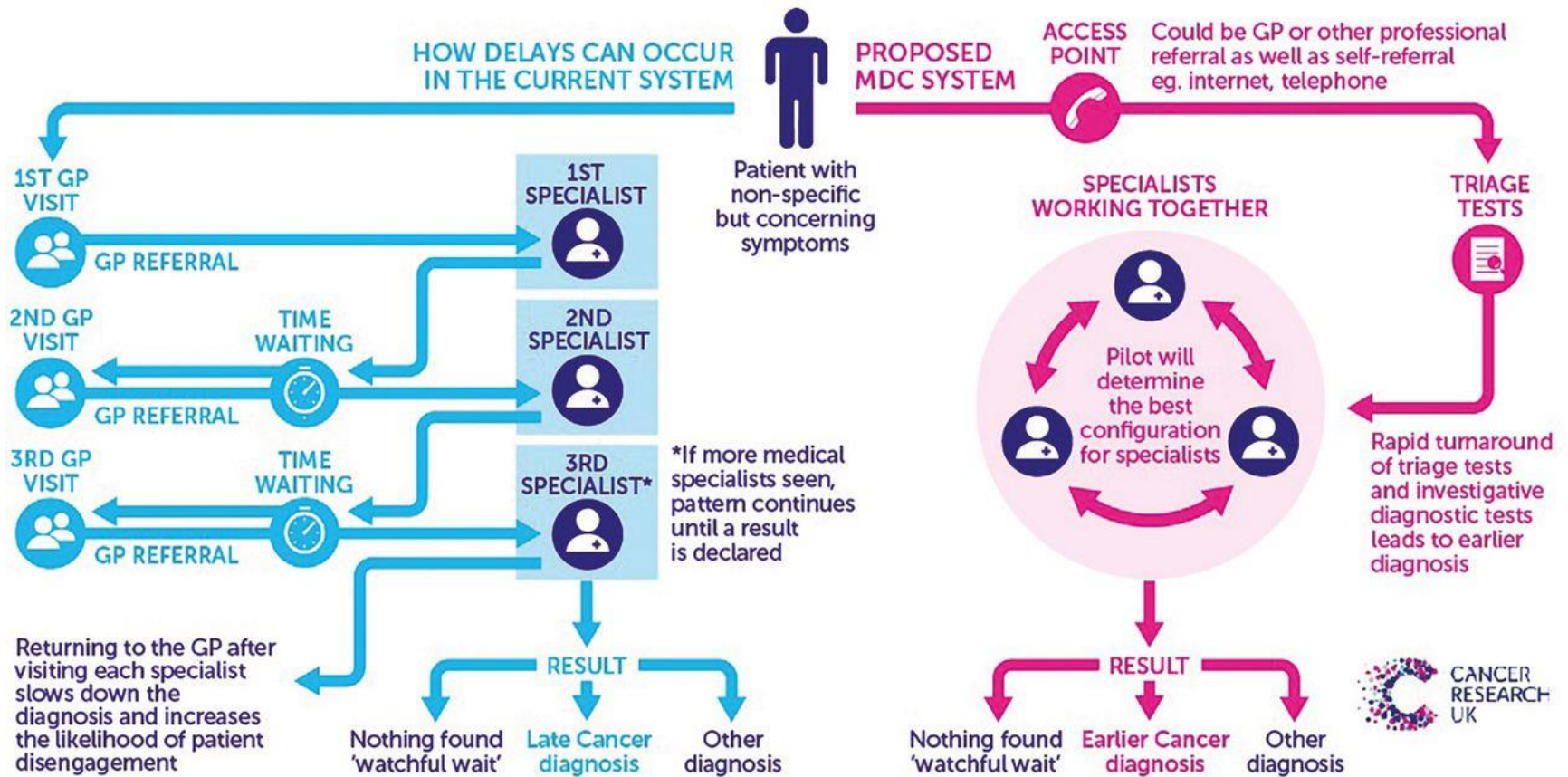
* Hippisley-Cox et al Br J Gen Pract. 2012 Jan; 62(594): e38–e45

Who should be investigated?

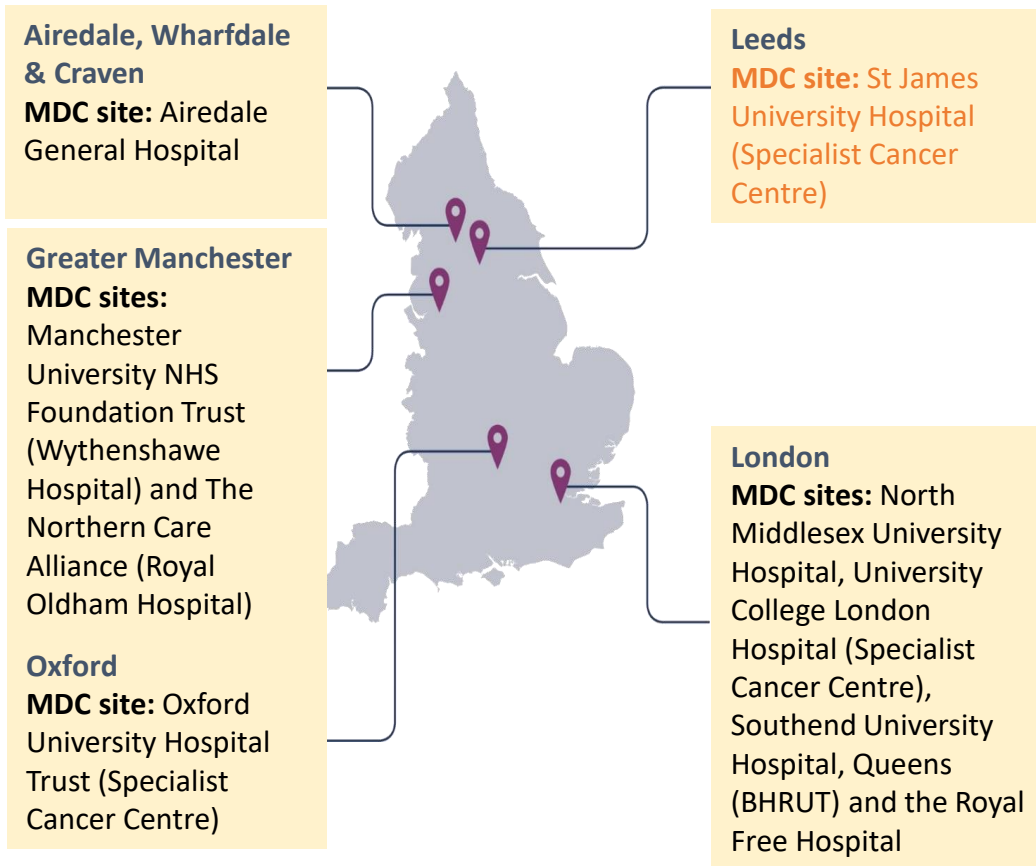
- SYMPTOMATIC
- NICE Guidance - ? Too restrictive better DSTs needed
 - Aged >40 and with jaundice
 - Aged >60 with weight loss **and** any of diarrhoea / back pain / abdominal pain / nausea / vomiting / constipation / **new diabetes**
- Future – refer to Rapid Diagnostic Centre (RDC)
- SCREENING/SURVEILLANCE – Pancreatic cancer risk > 5%
- Cancer Syndromes that include pancreatic cancer
- Familial Pancreatic Cancer
- Pre-malignant cystic lesions – IPMN, MCN
 - Why is there no national cancer surveillance system for pre-malignant lesions?



RDCs offer avoidance of multiple pathways - serial or in parallel



Nationally - 10 ACE MDCs across England

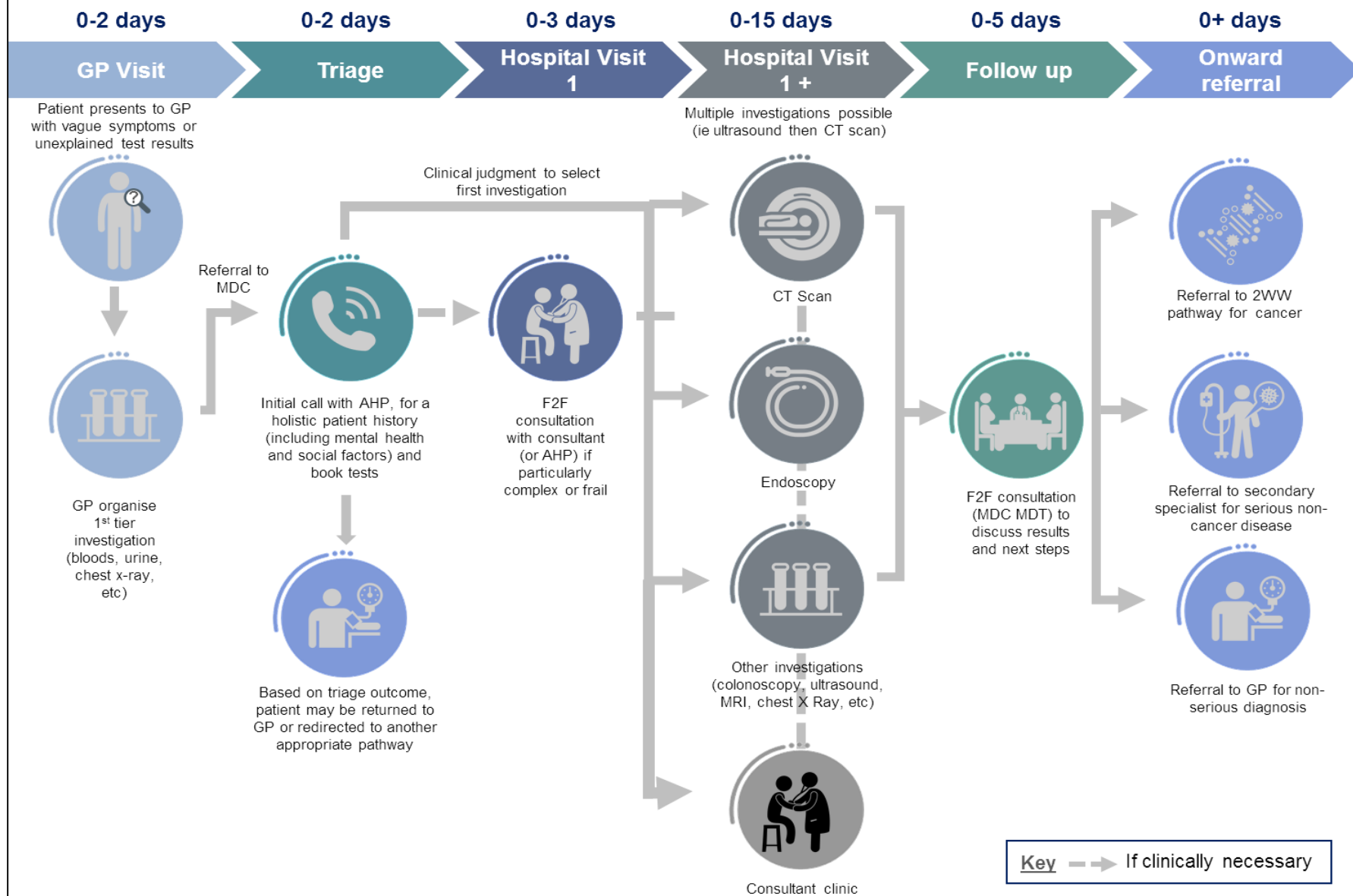


- A common dataset and reporting framework agreed across the projects
- National Cancer Diagnosis Audit used to create a 'proxy comparator pathway' for NSCS patient cohort
- Different approaches taken

A national approach allows different NHS settings to be explored and creates a larger MDC referral data set for analysis

RDCs – The patient journey

The Patient Journey:



CRUK ACE Program

Key messages from the evaluation of MDCs

This summary report highlights the key findings from the five MDC projects and draws together the learning gained from their implementation. It also includes the most recent data.

 [View report](#)



<https://www.cancerresearchuk.org/health-professional/diagnosis/accelerate-coordinate-evaluate-ace-programme>

First results from five multidisciplinary diagnostic centre (MDC) projects for non-specific but concerning symptoms, possibly indicative of cancer

D. Chapman, V. Poirier, D. Vulkan, K. Fitzgerald,
G. Rubin, W. Hamilton, S. W. Duffy
British Journal of Cancer 123, 722–729(2020)

Patient characteristics

2,961

patients were referred into the ten MDC sites during the evaluation.

The median age of patients was **69** years old.

The age range for patients was **17** to **97** years old.



56%

of the cohort was female.

At point of referral, patients reported a degree of comorbidity and varying levels of physical restriction:



43%

of patients had mild comorbidity and



27%

had moderate and severe comorbidity (2,067 total records).



18%

of patients (2,067 total records) had moderate or severe physical restrictions



58%

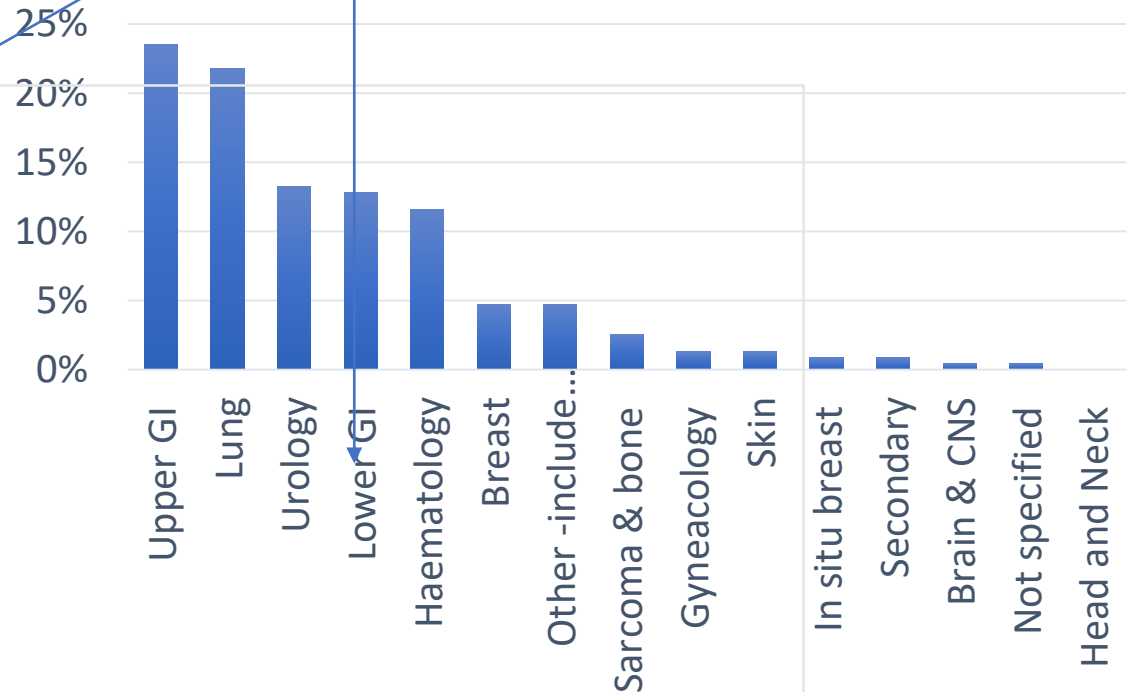
of patients presented with 2 or more non-specific symptoms exc. 'GP gut feeling'.

ACE MDCs - Cancer diagnoses distribution (July 2018)

Total MDC referrals*	2,873
Number of cancers	234
Cancer conversion	8%

**Pancreatic cancer
(10.6%)**

n=25

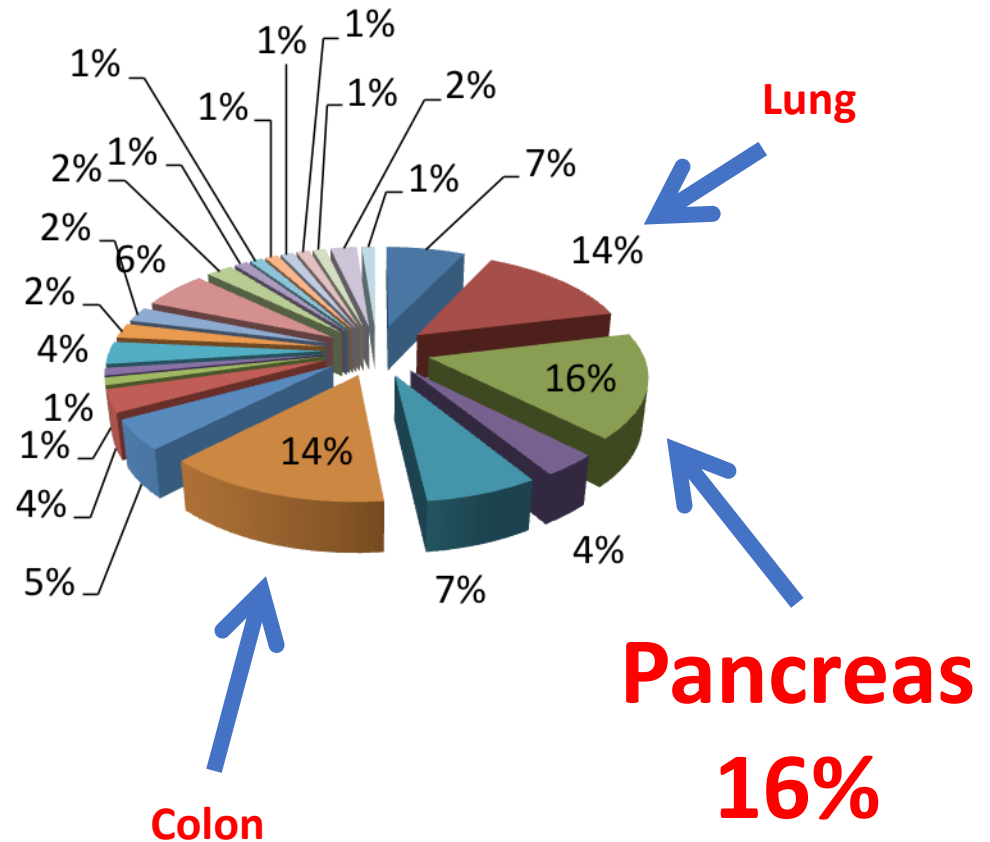


NCEL Cancer Alliance MDC

Cancer types

Cancer types in 1903 patients
(Apr 17 – Apr 19)

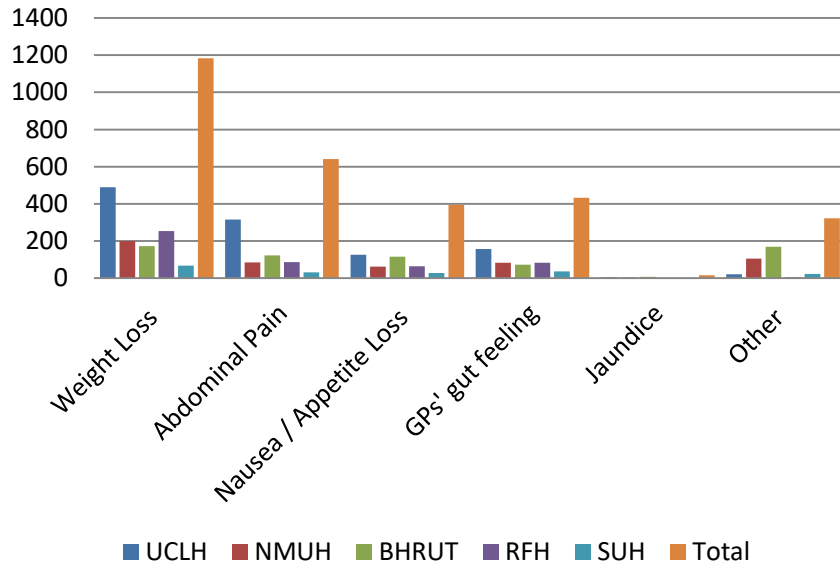
- Breast
- Lung
- Pancreas
- Oesophagus
- Stomach
- Colon
- Rectosigmoid
- Gallbladder
- Unspecified Female Genital Organs
- Peripheral & Cutaneous T-cell lymphomas



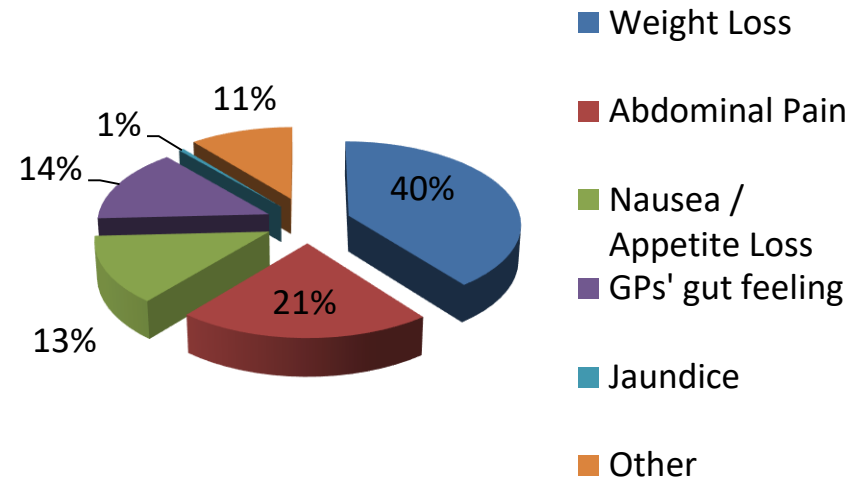
NECL Cancer Alliance MDC

Referral reasons patients (Apr 17 – Apr 19)

Breakdown



Percentage



- Weight loss 40%
- Abdominal pain 21%

NCEL Cancer Alliance

MDC Cancer Conversion and Challenges

Site	Number of referrals	No. of Cancers	Cancer conversion rate	Time to cancer diagnosis (mean)
UCLH	814	40	4.91%	31
NMUH	327	13	3.98%	33.5
SUH	129	10	7.75%	41.7
BHRUT	295	20	6.78%	39.1
RFH	338	7	2.07%	47.7
Total	1903	90	4.73%	38.6

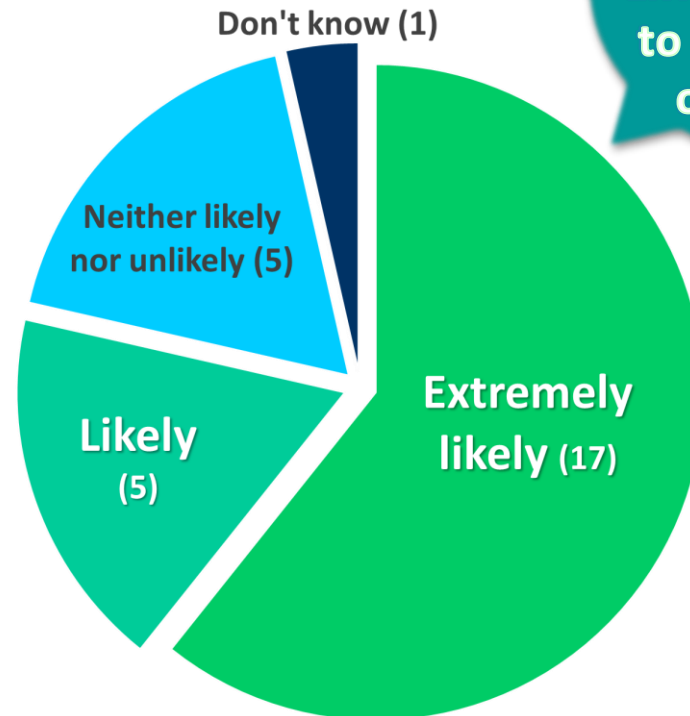
- Considerable challenge in clinic availability and radiology and endoscopy waiting times in all sites
- National RDC specification and resource allocation help to resolve this
- Key learning from Covid-19 moving to more virtual and agile services with remote consultations and utilising external diagnostic sites

Patient Experience

(50 patients)

- 82.8 % felt they received their first hospital appointment as soon as was necessary
- 89.3% felt their test results were explained in a way they could understand
- 78.6% felt they waited a reasonable amount of time while attending clinics and appointments

How likely are you to recommend our service to friends and family?

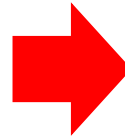


75.9% (22)
Likely or
Extremely likely
to recommend
our service

Will RDCs improve the Pancreatic Cancer Pathway?

Now

- Improve the speed of diagnosis
 - Welsh study - 84.2 to 40.8 days if investigations booked - 5.9 days if at first appointment¹
- Improve patient experience
- Improve primary-secondary care communication
- Potential route for ALL suspected pancreatic cancer



Future

- Improve efficiency of site specific pathways
- Support research
 - Biomarkers
 - CDST/Self-referral tools
 - Population awareness of non-specific symptoms
- Rapid access will support stage shift at diagnosis and thus improve survival

¹Rapid cancer diagnosis for patients with vague symptoms: a cost-effectiveness study
Sewell et al British Journal of General Practice 2020; 70 (692): e186-e192

- Currently **7 Cancer Alliances** are implementing or planning a rapid diagnostic pathway/centre for pancreatic cancer (Lancashire & South Cumbria, West Yorkshire & Harrogate, Wessex, Peninsula, Greater Manchester, East of England, North Central & East London).

Lancashire & South Cumbria:
Alliance wide pancreatic cancer rapid diagnostic pathway

Wessex:
Will consider wider review of the current upper GI 2WW referral to separate the pancreatic cancer referrals and redirect to the rapid diagnostic service

Peninsula:
Rolling out a rapid jaundice clinic – with CT available to patients with rapid onset jaundice within 48 hours

Greater Manchester:
Looking to incorporate a rapid jaundice pathway for HPB patients

West Yorkshire & Harrogate:
Initiated a HPB optimal pathway group which will consider a pancreatic cancer RDC pathway, with a possible urgent jaundice pathway.

East of England:
Setting up a pancreatic cancer rapid diagnostic pathway

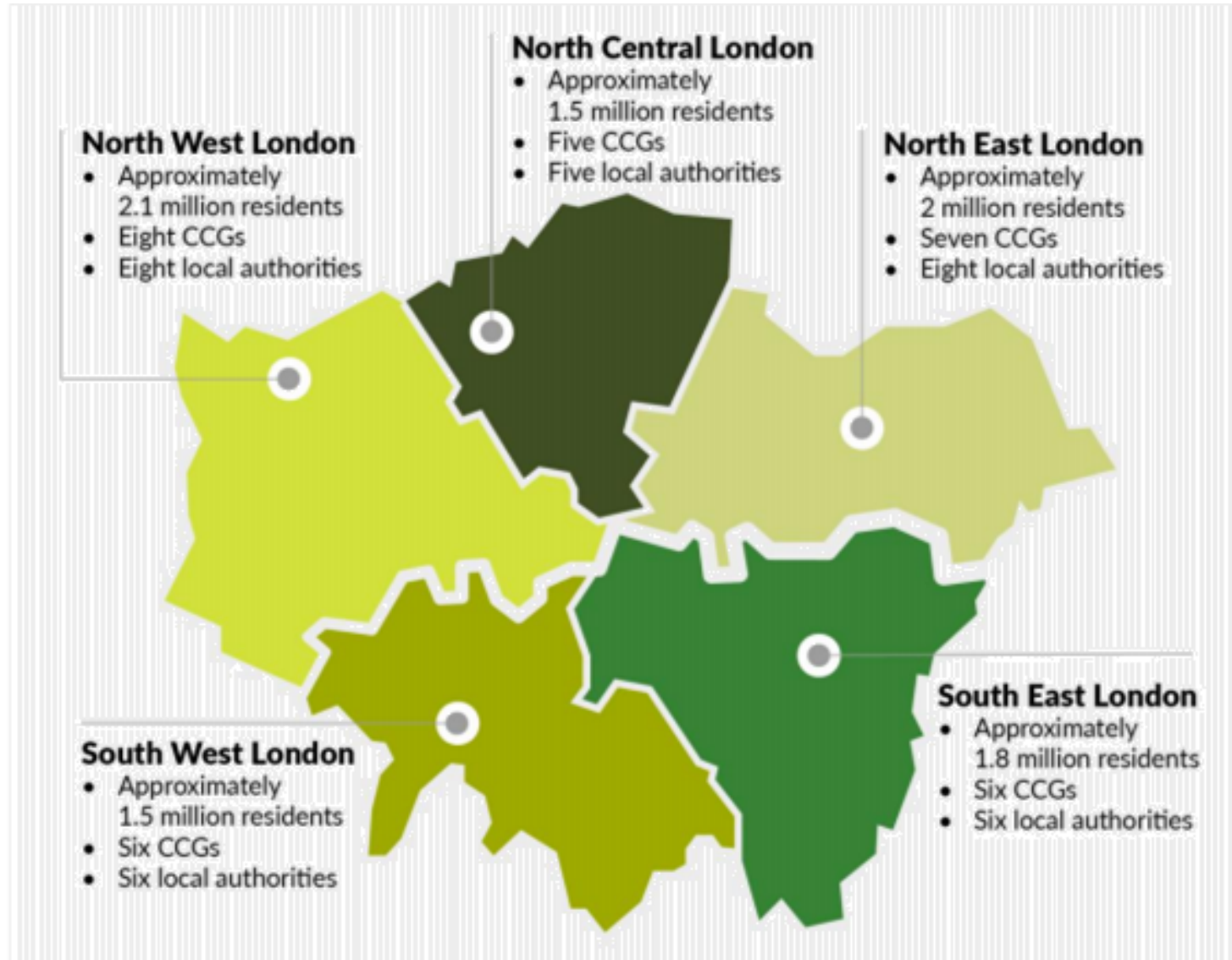
Suffolk & North East Essex:
Accepting GP referrals for pancreatic cancer and self-referral. RDC will also incorporate upper GI referrals.

Mid & South Essex:
RDC will include GP referrals for pancreatic cancer and referrals from A&E and radiology. RDC will also incorporate upper GI referrals as well as lower GI and NSS

North, Central & East London:



Future RDC Research – Pan London Consortium



ADEPTS study



- Accelerated Diagnosis of neuroEndocrine and Pancreatic TumourS
- Aim to develop new tests to diagnose PDAC and PNETs at an early stage; less invasive diagnosis.
- Benefits of earlier diagnosis: more treatment options, expectation of a better life and greater survival.
- Launched Nov 2018



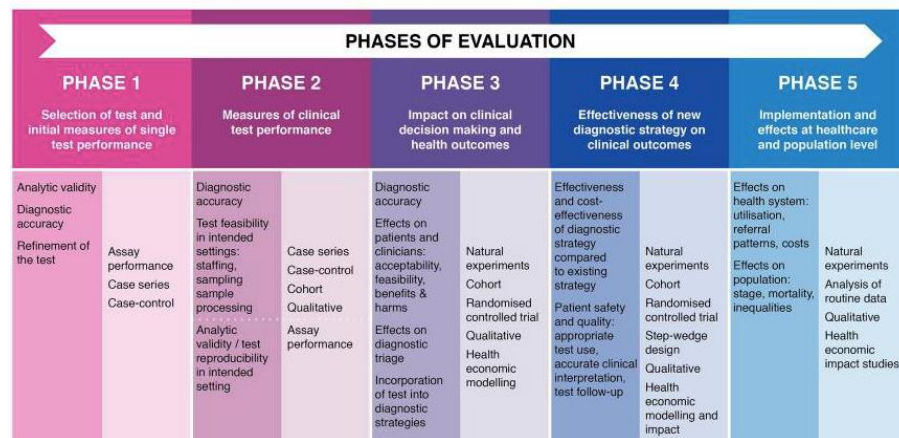
Can detailed patient reported symptoms drive DSTs for NSCS?

• Symptom Pattern In the Nonspecific Presentation of Cancer (SPIN-PC)

- Collect patient reported symptoms
- Combine with outcome data
- AI to develop DST to guide diagnostic testing



CanTest Framework - Research Methods and Designs

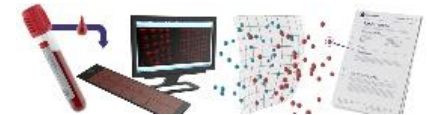


Evaluating diagnostic strategies for early detection of cancer: the CanTest framework Fiona M. Walter *BMC Cancer*. 2019; 19: 586

Combining multiple immune system and tumor biomarkers from a single blood sample can reliably detect early stage PDAC



Immunovia AB



August 2018 Retrospective Scandinavian study, validated with US cohort

JOURNAL OF CLINICAL ONCOLOGY **BIOLOGY OF NEOPLASIA**

Serum Biomarker Signature-Based Liquid Biopsy for Diagnosis of Early-Stage Pancreatic Cancer

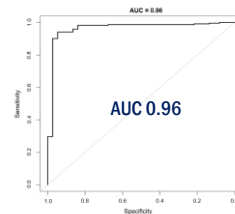
Linda D. Mellby, Andrew P. Nyberg, Julia S. Johansen, Christer Wikgren, Berg G. Nordenskjöld, Stig E. Rejzner, Birgitta L. Mischak, Brett C. Sheppard, Rosalie C. Sears, and Carl A.K. Bernebeck

ABSTRACT

Purpose Pancreatic ductal adenocarcinoma (PDAC) has a poor prognosis, with a 5-year survival of < 10% because of diffuse symptoms leading to late-stage diagnosis. That survival could increase significantly if localized tumors could be detected early. Therefore, we used multiparametric analysis of blood samples to obtain a novel biomarker signature of early-stage PDAC. The signature was derived from a large patient cohort, including patients with well-defined early-stage I and II PDAC. This biomarker signature was validated subsequently in an independent patient cohort.

Patients and Methods

Diagnosis	Stage	# Cases
PDAC	IA	15
	IB	16
	IIA	59
	IIB	148
	III	80
	IV	268
IPMN	Benign	13
	Borderline	5
	Malignant	10
Chronic Pancreatitis		57
Controls		1107

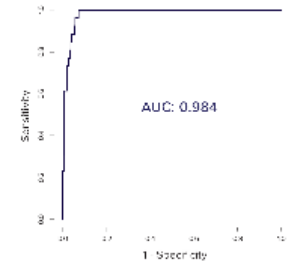


PDAC Stage I and II vs healthy controls

June 2019 Collaborative study with UCL
PDAC vs non PDAC symptomatic controls

PDAC				Controls		
Stage I	Stage II	Stage III	Stage IV	Healthy controls	Symptomatic controls (without diabetes)	Diabetes controls
No. 20	34	21	61	217	480	90

Results combining IMMray™ PanCan-d and CA19-9



PDAC Stage I and II vs symptomatic and healthy controls

2017 Prospective validation studies covering UK, US, Sweden, Canada, Spain

26 sites from Europe and USA part of

3 large pancreatic cancer clinical studies: PanFAM-1, PanSYM-1 and PanDIA-1

Totally covering >10 000 high risk subjects

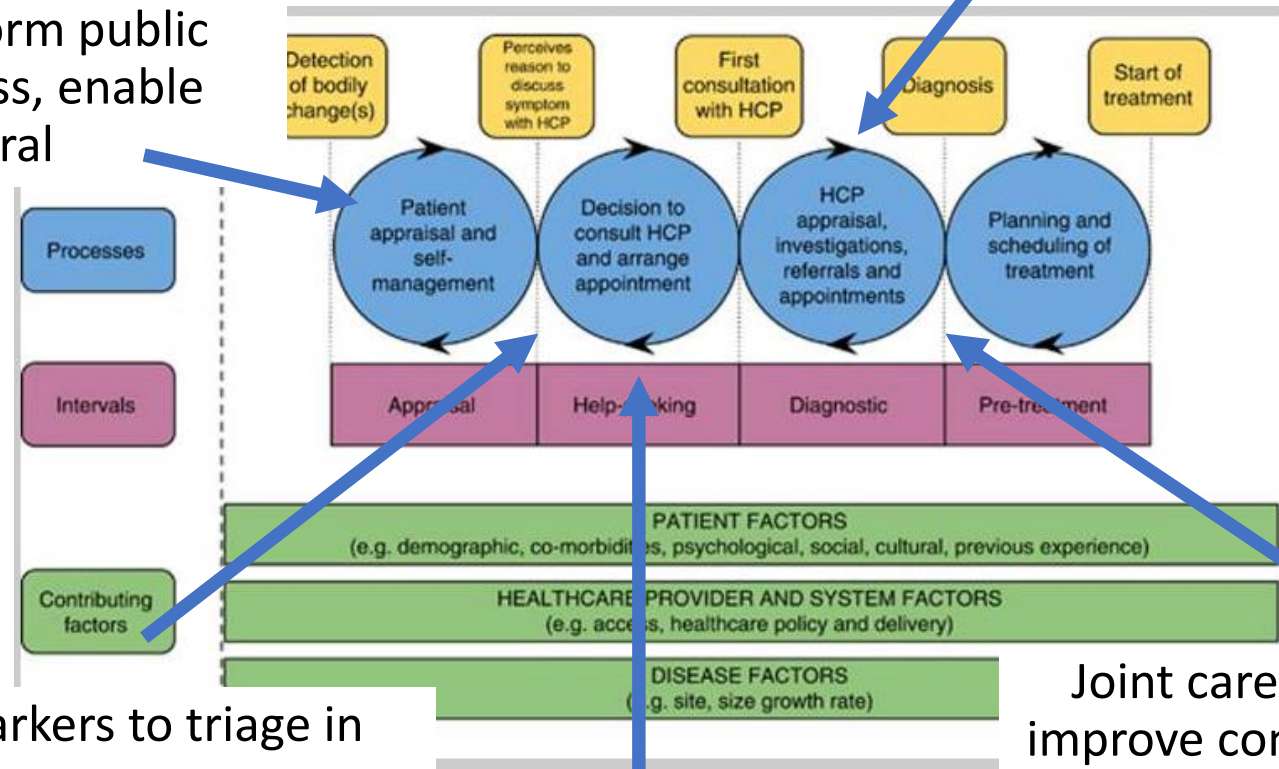


Slide courtesy of Prof S Pereira, UCLH

The Future

Decision support tools inform public awareness, enable self-referral

RDCs for rapid and earlier diagnosis



Biomarkers to triage in primary care

Joint care records to improve communication and research

National surveillance for pre-malignant lesions

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- Manchester University NHS Foundation Trust (Wythenshawe Hospital) & The Northern Care Alliance (Royal Oldham Hospital)
- Leeds St James University Hospital
- Oxford University Hospitals Trust

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- Clare Pearson
- Karen Fitzgerald
- Sarah Hiom

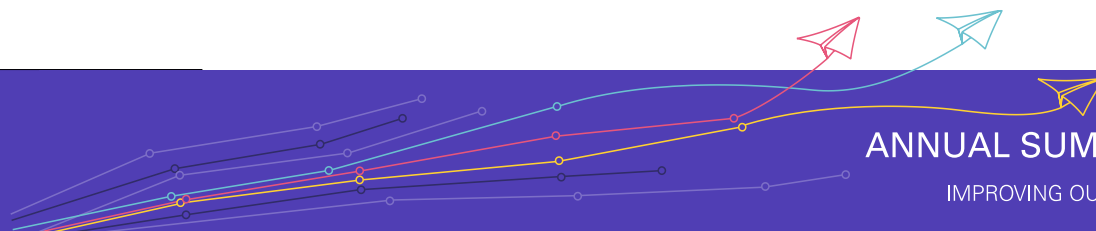
Policy Research Unit cancer evaluation team

- Stephen Duffy
- Daniel Vulkan

Rapid Diagnostic Centres (RDCs)

Pancreatic Cancer UK are keen to work further with any Cancer Alliances and health professionals that are implementing rapid diagnostic pathways for pancreatic cancer, to share learning and innovations between centres and to optimise the rapid diagnostic pathway model for pancreatic cancer.

If you are working on a pancreatic cancer rapid diagnostic pathway/centre or want any more information please contact andrewmillar@nhs.net or peter@pancreaticcancer.org.uk



RDC at NMUH

Pancreatic Pathway – Nov 2020

All referrals sent via ERS or direct from ED / Radiology

1. Daily vetting by consultant – triage – tests/TC/F2F
2. CNS/navigator call patient and arranges (jaundiced patients always seen <48 hours by consultant)
3. The Navigator / RDC CNS coordinate tests – PET-CT, EUS, ERCP if needed, anaesthetic work up, psychological support, dietician, HNA
4. Twice weekly MDT review by team of progress
5. Patient admitted only if pain / debility
6. Patients with resectable tumours referred directly - MDT to agree surgical plan