National Pancreatic Cancer Audit (NPaCA)

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NPaCA
National Pancreatic Cancer Audit

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National Pancreatic Cancer Audit

What is NPaCA?

The new National Pancreatic Cancer Audit (NPaCA) is one of 10 national clinical audits being delivered by the National Cancer Audit Collaborating Centre (NATCAN), within the Clinical Effectiveness Unit at the Royal College of Surgeons of England.

- Commissioned by the Healthcare Quality Improvement Partnership (HQIP), October 2022
- Funded by NHS England and the Welsh Government, initially for three years

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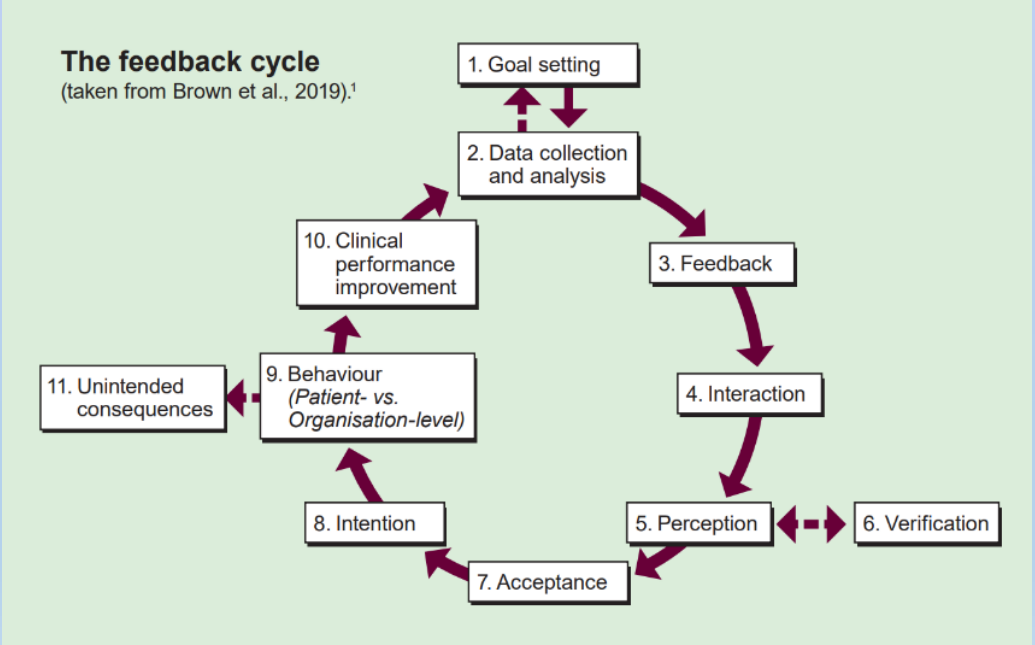
National clinical audits:

- Evaluate healthcare nationwide against standards
- Identify where services are doing well, and where they could be improved

→ targeted Quality Improvement



Variation in pancreatic cancer care

- Concerns raised in relation to:
  - regional variation in the distribution of disease stage at diagnosis
  - low rates of surgery with curative intent
  - regional variation in the use of chemotherapy after surgery
  - regional variation in the proportion of patients who received palliative chemotherapy

Source: Pancreatic Cancer UK. *Variation in pancreatic cancer care and treatment*. 2020.

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What are the aims of the Audit?

- To support NHS organisations in England and Wales to benchmark their pancreatic cancer care against measurable standards.
- To identify unwarranted variation in pancreatic cancer care.
- To provide tools to help NHS pancreatic cancer services to improve the quality of care received by patients.

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What information will the Audit use?

- NPaCA will use information from existing and linked national cancer datasets
  - England: “gold-standard” cancer registration data, Rapid Cancer Registration Dataset (RCRD)
  - Wales: new national cancer datasets

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ENGLISH DATASETS

- National Cancer Registration (rapid & gold standard)
- Cancer Outcomes and Services Dataset (COSD)
- Systemic Anti-Cancer Therapy (SACT) dataset
- National Radiotherapy Dataset (RTDS)
- Hospital Episode Statistics (HES)
- Mortality data - Office for National Statistics (ONS)
- Primary Care Prescription Database (PCPD)
- Cancer Waiting Times (CWT)
- Diagnostic Imaging Dataset (DIDS)
- National Cancer Patient Experience Survey

WELSH DATASETS

- CaNISC or Cancer Informatics System (CIS)
- Patient Episode Database for Wales (PEDW)
- ?? Systemic Anti-Cancer Therapy (SACT) dataset
- National Radiotherapy Data
- Mortality data - Office for National Statistics (ONS)

Core datasets

Supplementary datasets

What outputs will the Audit produce?

Key outputs:

- Quality Improvement Strategy → definition of performance indicators
- Annual ‘State of the Nation’ report (September 2024)
- Dashboard of indicators to support QI, updated on quarterly basis
- QI tools

Who is involved? (1)

Clinical leads:

- Dr. Ganesh Radhakrishna (Clinical Oncologist)
- Mr. Andrew Smith (Surgeon)
- Prof. Nigel Trudgill (Gastroenterologist)

Team at Clinical Effectiveness Unit (CEU), RCSEng:

- David Cromwell – Director of CEU, methodologist
- Vikki Hart – Senior Project Manager
- Amanda McDonell – Data scientist
- Min Hae Park – Methodologist

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Who is involved? (2)

- **Clinical Reference Group:** Members from various stakeholders:
  - Clinicians involved with pancreatic care
  - Patient group representatives
  - Commissioners, Policy makers
  - Funder representatives

- **Patient and Public Involvement Forum:** Patient representatives help with:
  - Formulating Quality Improvement (QI) strategy
  - Interpreting audit findings
  - Disseminating results

Pancreatic Cancer UK

pancreatic cancer action

- NATCAN:
  - Executive Team, Clinical Director, Technical Advisory Group, QI team

What has the Audit achieved to date?

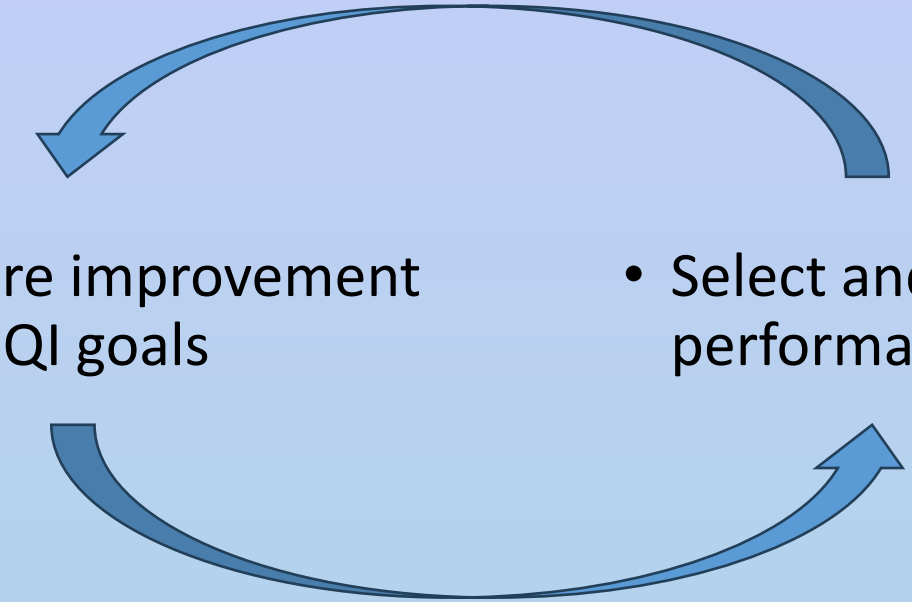
1. Review of national guidelines on the management of pancreatic cancer care and organisation of services

2. Stakeholder engagement:
   - Consultation meeting with Clinical Reference Group
   - Consultation with Pancreatic Cancer UK and other organisations

3. Scoping document – to be published November 2023
   - Builds on feasibility study (NOGCA, 2022)

What's next?

Preliminary analysis of national cancer data and assessment of data completeness



- Develop healthcare improvement plan and identify QI goals
- Select and evaluate key performance indicators

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How can I find out more?

1. Sign up to receive our newsletter: pancreaticcanceraudit@rcseng.ac.uk

2. Follow us on X (formerly Twitter): @NPaCA_NATCAN

3. Visit the NATCAN website: https://www.natcan.org.uk/audits/pancreatic/