



Thames Valley Cancer Alliance

Issue 112: 1 May 2025

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National news

Re-Developing the 2025 National Cancer Patient Experience Survey Materials

Please help improve cancer care by testing a patient survey and materials

Picker NHS

- Have you recently been diagnosed with cancer?
- We would like people aged 16 and above who have received cancer care in the last year at an NHS hospital to help us test a patient survey to improve cancer care.
- NHS England is working with Picker, a healthcare research charity, to run the National Cancer Patient Experience Survey.

£50
Love2Shop or Amazon gift voucher per interview

For more information, visit: bit.ly/NCPES24

NHS England is updating the 2025 National Cancer Patient Experience Survey and needs volunteers for interview testing.

People can take part if they:

- Are 16 or older
- Have a primary cancer diagnosis
- Had NHS cancer treatment in the past year

Participants will receive a £50 voucher.

[Sign up here](#)

Support the U16 Cancer Survey

The [Under 16 Cancer Patient Experience Survey](#) aims to capture the experiences of children and their parents/carers to help improve cancer services across England. This is for children who received inpatient or day case care from an NHS Principal Treatment Centre (PTC) in 2024.

Help spread the word! Use [the toolkit](#) with ready-made messages, posters, and videos.

Need support? Email england.insight-queries@nhs.net

[View survey here](#)

Training and events

Webinar: When is unscheduled vaginal bleeding a red flag symptom of cancer?

GP Lead Dr Sarah Taylor will join specialists to discuss:

- Risk factors of endometrial cancer
- When to be concerned by perimenopausal and postmenopausal bleeding
- How to manage bleeding on HRT in menopausal patients

Date: Wednesday 21 May

Time: 12.30 - 1.15pm

[Unscheduled vaginal bleeding](#)

Resources for primary care:

Cancer Key

1 in 20 bowel cancer cases in the UK occur in those under 50, highlighting rising rates in younger adults and the need for genetic risk awareness and safety netting advice.

[Too young for bowel cancer info](#)

Research has found that FIT is 99.9% effective at ruling out suspected colorectal cancer in patients with rectal bleeding. Top up your knowledge on the latest NICE guidance on FIT.

[More on FIT here](#)

Bowel cancer screening course

Screening can reduce the risk of death by at least 25%, helping increase awareness and address inequalities.

[Bowel Cancer screening course details here](#)

Blood cancer webinar

GatewayC is hosting a free, interactive Q&A webinar with Dr. Fenella Willis on blood cancers. Learn how to recognize symptoms like bone pain, fractures, shortness of breath, and fatigue, as well as risk factors for blood cancer. The session will cover effective safety netting strategies, key investigations for early diagnosis, and practical advice on interpreting blood test results, including the importance of a full blood count.

Date: Wednesday 21 May

Time: 7 - 8pm

[Sign up to blood cancer webinar](#)

Bowel Cancer UK: Supporting Earlier Diagnosis

Join Bowel Cancer UK for their first-ever primary care virtual education event via Zoom. The session will be led by Claire Coughlan, Clinical Lead at Bowel Cancer UK, and Nurse Consultant at Lewisham and Greenwich NHS Trust, alongside Dr. Anisha Patel, who will discuss cancer care reviews within primary care.

This session will cover:

- An overview of colorectal cancer, risk factors, and red flag symptoms
- The use of FIT in symptomatic patients and the role of bowel cancer screening
- The diagnostic pathway and the importance of earlier diagnosis

Date: Thursday 19 June

Time: 6.30 - 7.30pm

Colleagues sign up to their [Professionals Network](#) to receive regular updates as well as access their health professional resources.

[Register for primary care event here](#)

Podcasts

GP Lets talk cancer: "Are you passing more or less than a teaspoonful?" Our GP leads Sarah and Rebecca cover lower GI cancers and chat red flag symptoms, patient cases, FIT, safety netting and more.

[Lower GI cancers](#)

"We need to make that first time special..." Our GPs share insights on the role of primary care in breaking down barriers to attendance of national screening programmes such as bowel cancer screening.

[Make the first time special podcast](#)



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