



## **C the Signs: Implementation and Deployment**

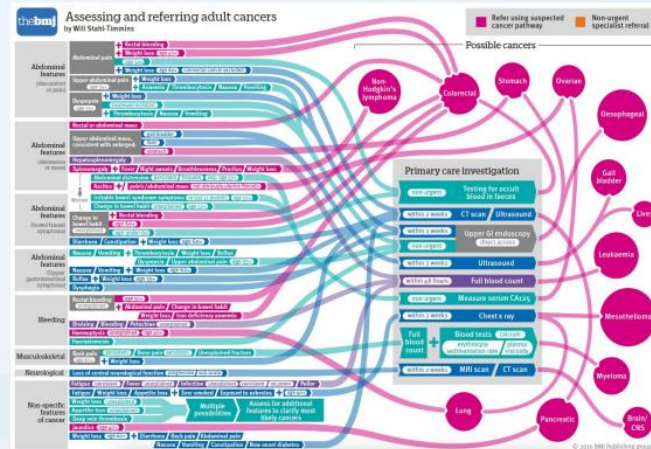
**Update 4<sup>th</sup> Dec 2023**

# What is C the Signs?

- Cancer decision support tool calibrated to Nice referral criteria and local pathways
- Changes to 2ww referral forms can be made quickly and easily to ensure the forms are the most up to date version and Nice compliant
- The CTS decision support tool should help to reduce the number of forms sent to duplicate pathways and ensuring the right pathway is selected first time

- Inbuilt referral forms
- GPs can track patients through all stages of their cancer journey : referral – assessment – investigation – diagnosis – post diagnosis follow up
- Improves safety netting
- Cancer care reviews
- New pathways to be integrated into the platform as they develop (e.g. GP direct access)

## Cancer risk assessment



The NICE Cancer guidelines at over 70 pages are lengthy and complex - with hundreds of signs, symptoms and risk factors to consider, in addition to knowing what cancer services are available locally.

C the Signs triages all patients in primary care - 100% of recommendations are aligned to the NICE Cancer guidelines, local cancers pathways and access to cancer services - taking <30 seconds.

# Why did we commission C the Signs?

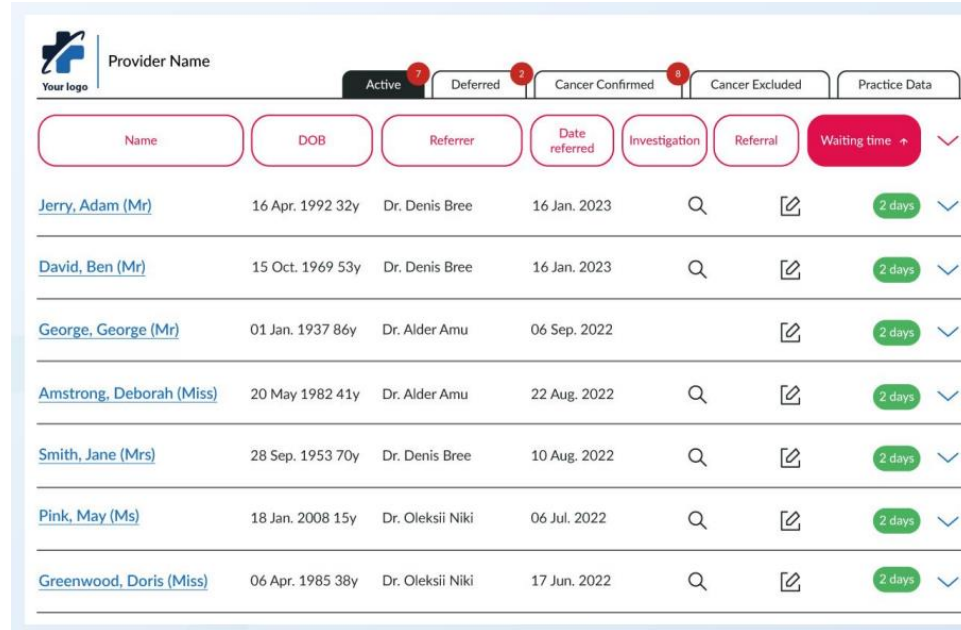
- **Long-Term Plan** aim to diagnose 75% of patients with cancer at an early stage (stage 1 and 2) by 2028.

- **Cancer Alliance Faster Diagnosis framework** - to work with colleagues in primary care to establish universal coverage of clinical decision support (CDS) tools to support and streamline cancer diagnosis in GP Practices by end of 2023/24.

- **GP Contract - Early Cancer Diagnosis 2022/23:**

- Review 2ww referral practice and quality (e.g., use of clinical decision support tools).
- Ensure a consistent response to safety netting patients referred via a 2ww or for further investigations to exclude the possibility of cancer.

- **Use of FIT in the colorectal 2ww pathway** – requires safety netting of patients in primary care; safety netting practices varied before C the Signs.



Name	DOB	Referrer	Date referred	Investigation	Referral	Waiting time
<a href="#">Jerry, Adam (Mr)</a>	16 Apr. 1992 32y	Dr. Denis Bree	16 Jan. 2023	Q	📄	2 days
<a href="#">David, Ben (Mr)</a>	15 Oct. 1969 53y	Dr. Denis Bree	16 Jan. 2023	Q	📄	2 days
<a href="#">George, George (Mr)</a>	01 Jan. 1937 86y	Dr. Alder Amu	06 Sep. 2022		📄	2 days
<a href="#">Armstrong, Deborah (Miss)</a>	20 May 1982 41y	Dr. Alder Amu	22 Aug. 2022	Q	📄	2 days
<a href="#">Smith, Jane (Mrs)</a>	28 Sep. 1953 70y	Dr. Denis Bree	10 Aug. 2022	Q	📄	2 days
<a href="#">Pink, May (Ms)</a>	18 Jan. 2008 15y	Dr. Oleksii Niki	06 Jul. 2022	Q	📄	2 days
<a href="#">Greenwood, Doris (Miss)</a>	06 Apr. 1985 38y	Dr. Oleksii Niki	17 Jun. 2022	Q	📄	2 days

- 100% of patients are automatically safety-netted and tracked.
- Includes a real-time view of all patients on a suspected pathway.
- Patient delays can be identified and abnormal results acted upon (e.g. FIT test result).

# Progress

- Q3 2022/23: Funding secured from Wessex Cancer Alliance, Innovation in Health Inequalities Programme and NHS Dorset for an 18-month pilot (to Feb 9th 2025)
- May 2023: C the Signs commissioned
- June – Aug 2023:
  - Configuration of Dorset suspected cancer pathways
  - All 2ww referral forms in Dorset made NICE compliant
  - Completion of Clinical Safety Case
  - Communications to primary care
  - Recruitment of C the Signs GP Fellow
  - Training via webinars, Practice and PCN meetings, online drop-in sessions and online resources
  - Community engagement project to understand why people don't complete their FIT test – 900 survey responses and 4 focus groups in underserved communities.

Provider Name

Patient: DAVID, Ben (Mr) NHS No. XXX XXX XXXX  
DOB: 15-Oct-1969 (53y) Address: 30 tasker house, 123 Croft Court, Locality, Barking, Essex, IG11 7DX

Lower GI Tract Suspected Cancer e-referral Form

Urgent suspected cancer referral leaflet  
A patient information leaflet for 2-week wait cancer referrals

English View/Print  
XXXXX XXX XXXX Send  
ben.david@mail.com Send

Patient Details		GP Details		
Surname	David	First Name	Ben	
DOB	15 Oct. 1957	Sex	Male	
Age	53	NHS No.	xxx xxx xxxxx	
Address	30 tasker house, 123 Croft Court, Locality, Barking, Essex, IG11 7DX		Address	45 Chapel Road Gateslack DG3 8HN
House Tel.	xxxxxx xxx xxx	Mobile Tel.	xxxxxx xxx xxx	

Patient engagement		Yes	No
The patient has been made aware that this is a suspected cancer referral		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The patient has received the two week wait referral leaflet		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The patient has been informed that they may be contacted by		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Patient resources embedded into forms, sent via SMS, email, print in multiple languages.

**Launched C the Signs on 9<sup>th</sup> August 2023**

## C the Signs uptake as of 29/11/23

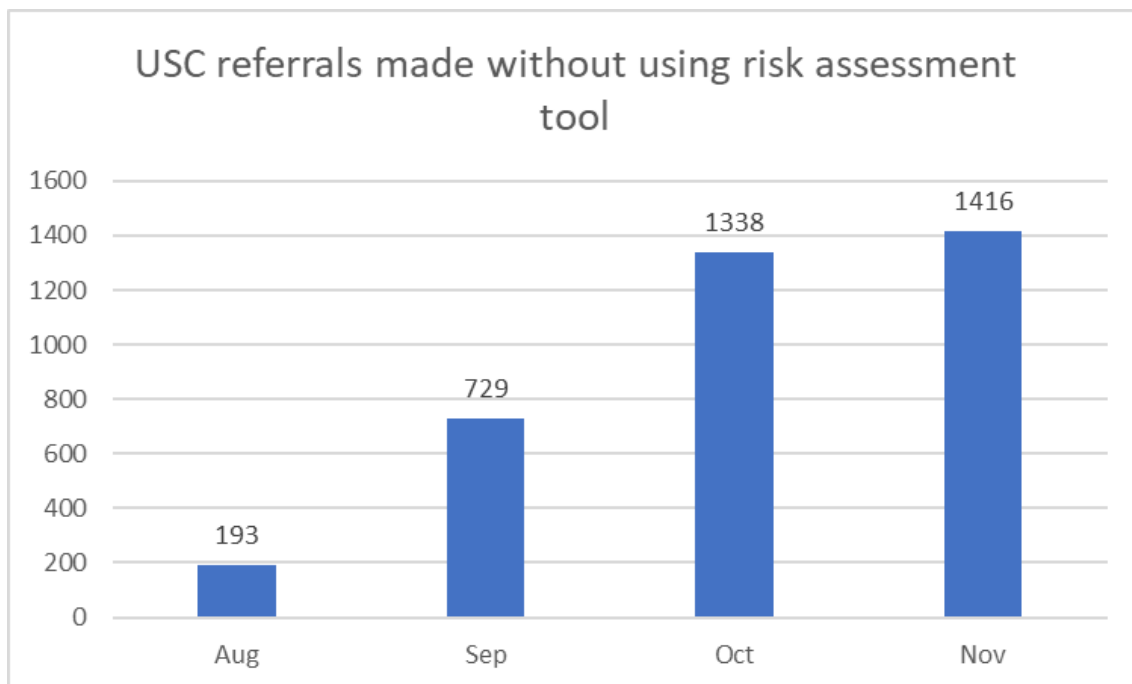
- All Practices in Dorset have signed the Data Processing Agreement (DPA)
- 67 of 68 Practices have undertaken training and been sent log-on credentials to start using CTS
- 785 users from 59 Practices
- 4432 referrals (of which 4,220 suspected cancer)
- 101 cancers diagnosed
- Good engagement from primary care; good two-way communication in place
- Champions Forum established

# C the Signs Urgent Suspected Cancer (USC) referrals

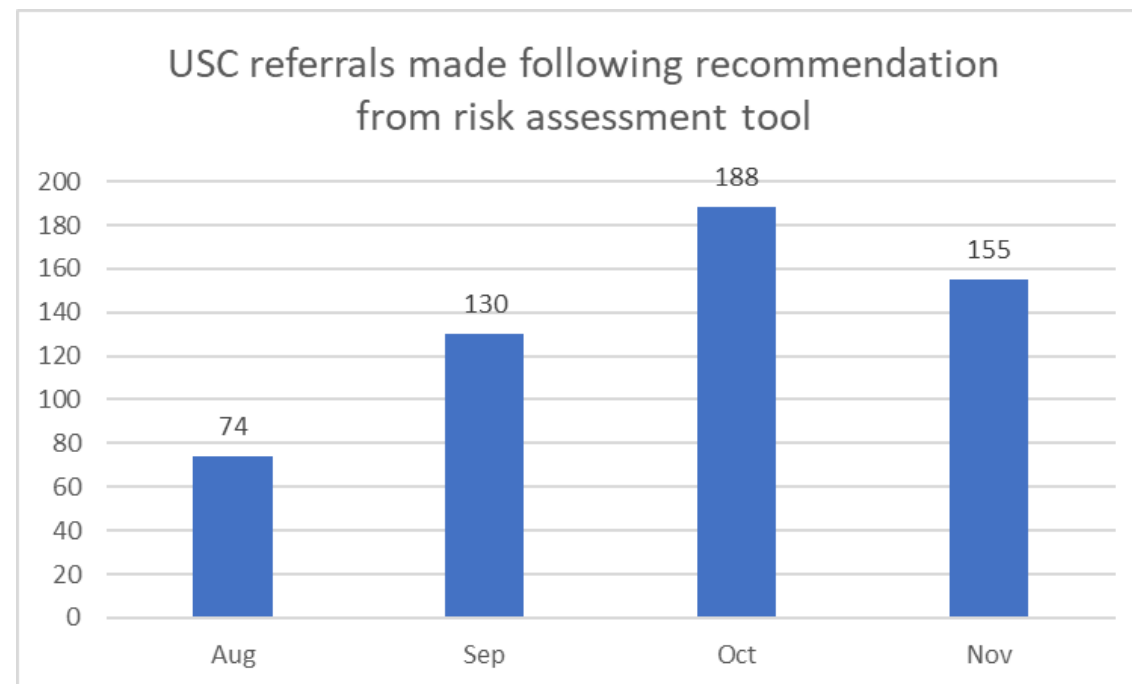
(data since launch on 9<sup>th</sup> August 2023)



Dorset



Total - 3676

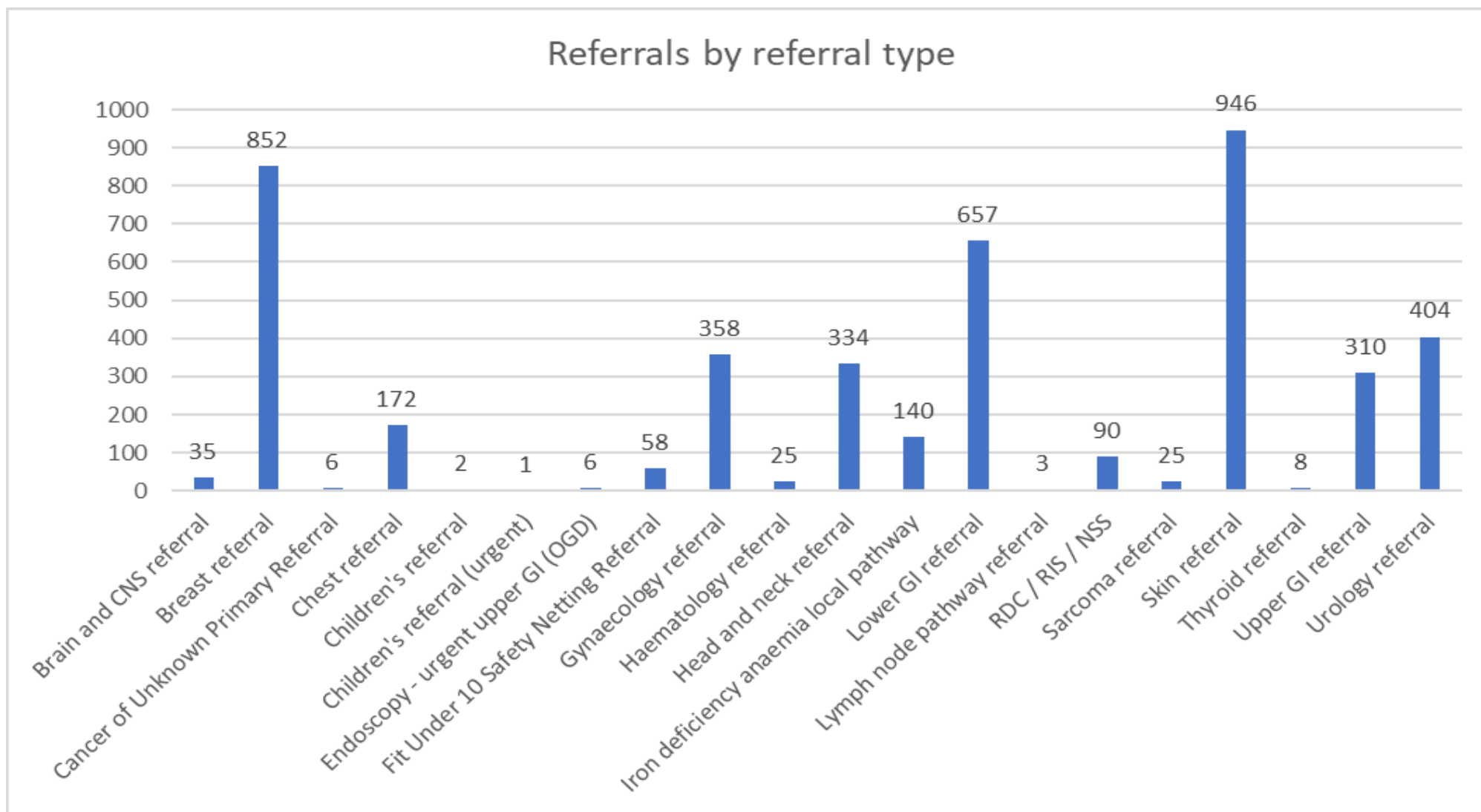


Total - 547

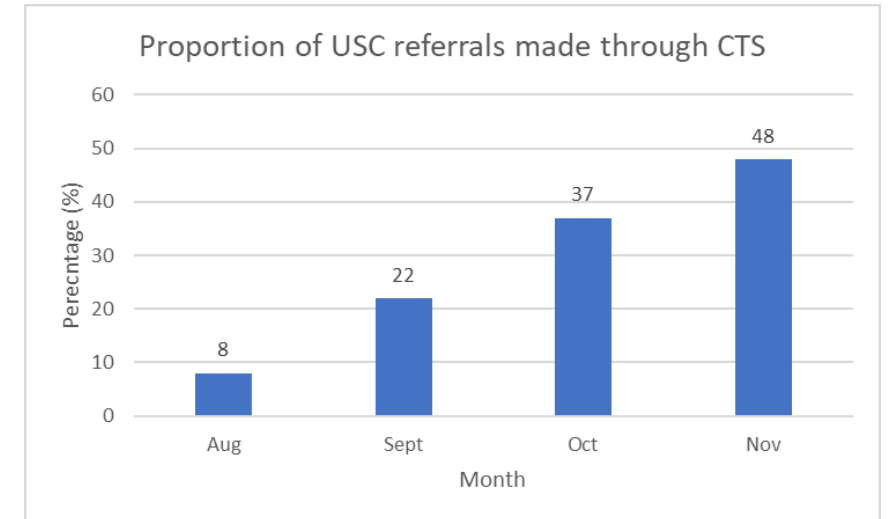
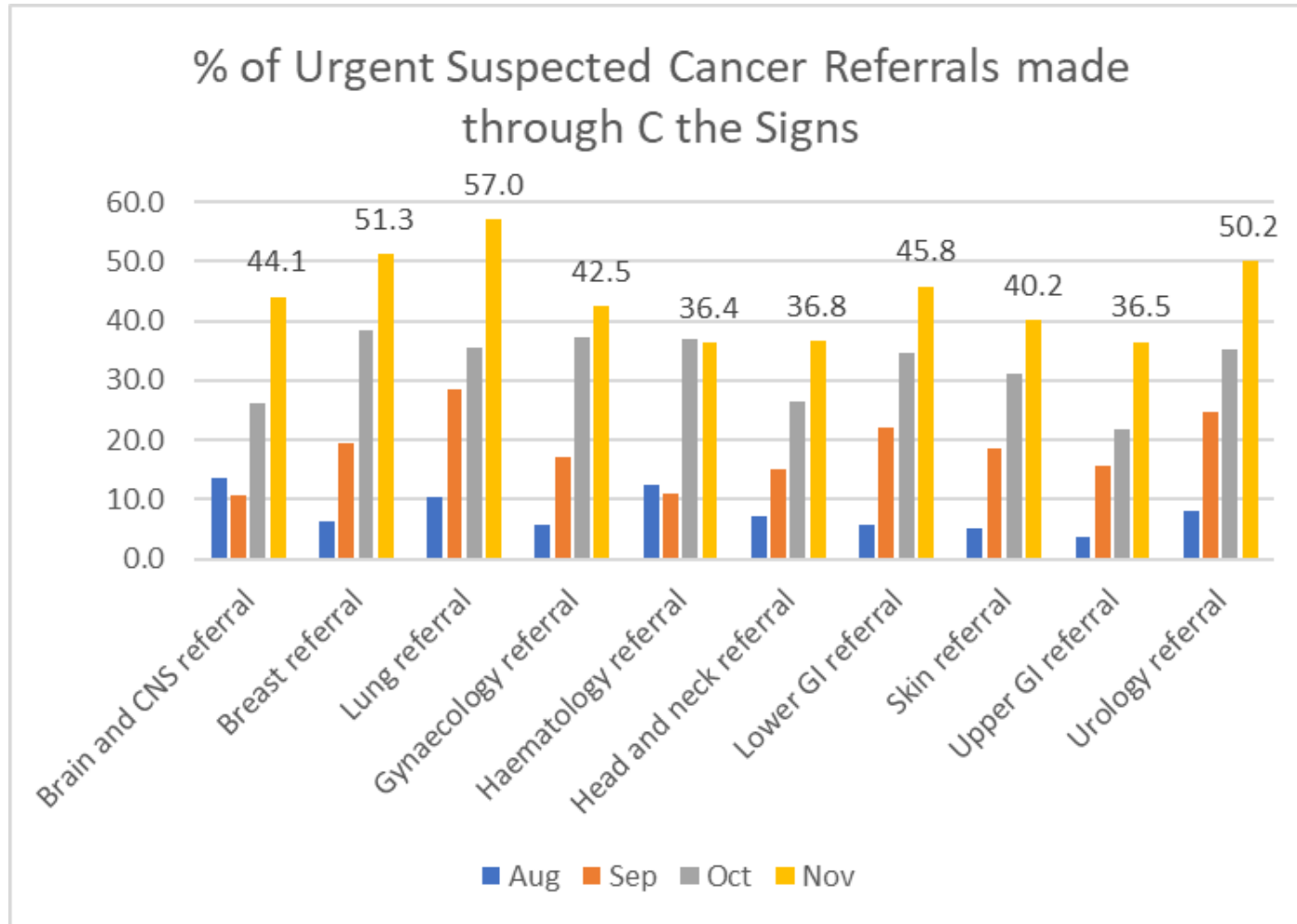
- Total USC referrals: 4,220
- Other referrals: 212 (Urgent endoscopy, FIT<10, IDA, Lymph Node pathway)

# C the Signs referrals

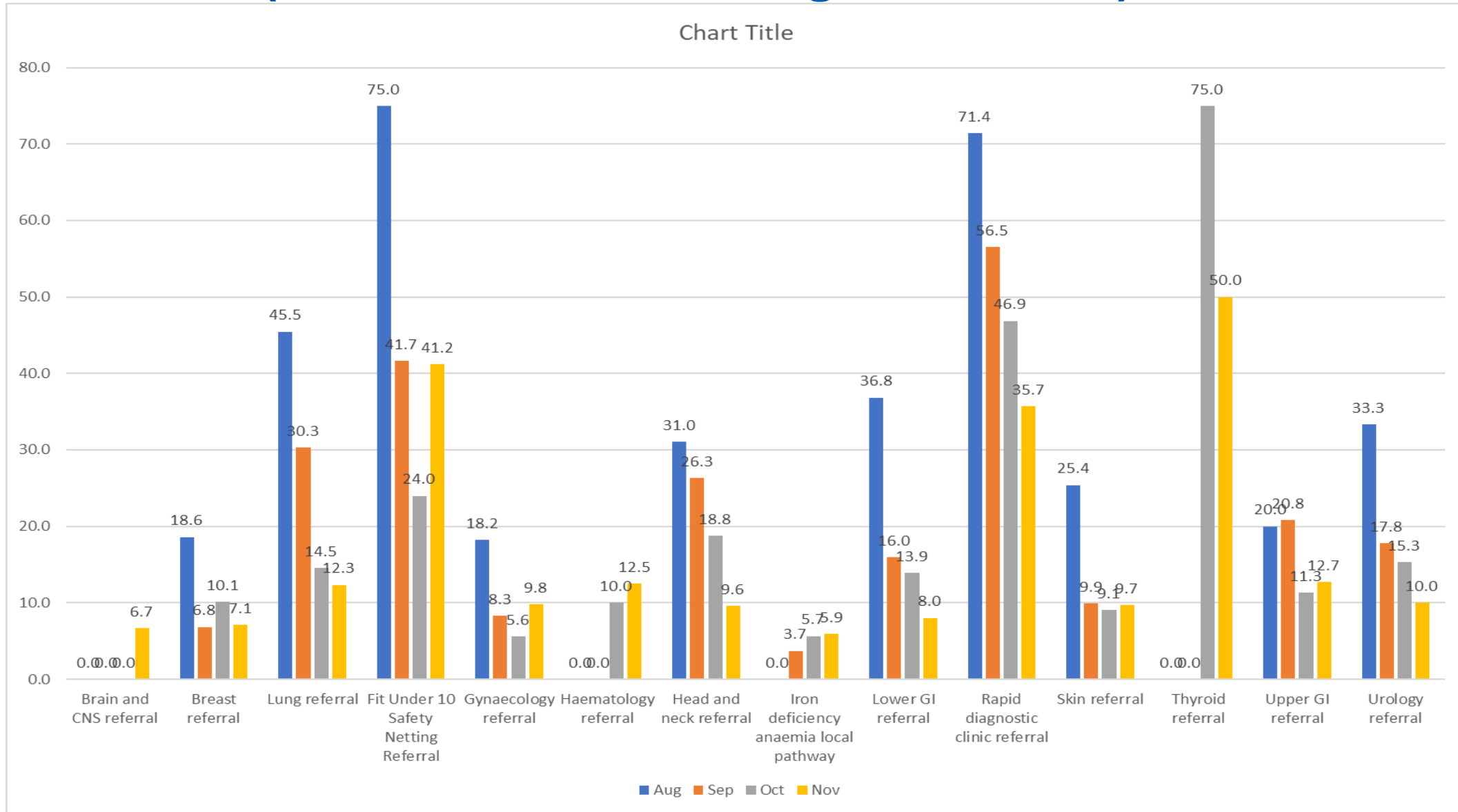
(data since launch on 9<sup>th</sup> August 2023)



# Proportion of Urgent Suspected Cancer referrals made through C the Signs (baseline – all USC referrals)



# Proportion of C the Signs referrals made following risk assessment (baseline – all C the Signs referrals)



## Next steps

- 13 PCNs signed up to Local Incentive Scheme including requirement for full utilisation of C the Signs
- Deliver Primary Care Conference in Spring 2024
- Attend cancer Site Specific Groups
- Configure GP direct access pathways
- Plan to remove access to the existing 2ww referral forms on Ardens and SystemOne (date tbc)
- Resolve issue of FIT results coding in the trusts
- Work with DiiS and Roche to produce a cost minimisation study to support a business case.