



59 PCNs across Wessex took part in the LIS

Practice nurses can play a crucial role in the early identification of cancer:



Practice Nurses are more confident in recognising cancer red flags during long term condition reviews (following a series of bespoke education sessions)

Clinical audit identifies and promotes good practice but also supports education, learning and quality improvement, to the benefit of patients:



1,708 cancer cases have been reviewed via the Primary Care Audit

WCA plan to action Wessex-wide improvements based on these findings:



Over 20 common delays have been identified across the full audit data



90% of clinicians surveyed took direct action or made changes to practice as a result of completing the audit



It has been interesting to look back through the diagnostic process, to see what was done well, and if there were delays to diagnosis, what could have been done better. In particular, it has been useful to look at the presenting symptoms for each cancer diagnosis. This has allowed further discussion with colleagues about cancer recognition and has made me more vigilant in looking for 'less typical' cancer signs, in my consultations.

Very Brief Advice for smoking cessation (VBA) delivered by a health professional is proven to increase the chances of an individual making a quit attempt



Over 50% of primary care staff in Wessex are now trained to use Very Brief Advice

I have made extensive use of VBA since doing the training with immediate gratifying results in many cases, with patients signing up for smoking cessation sessions immediately after!



The estimated increase in early diagnosis rates as a result of increasing the awareness across the Wessex population of the importance of timely presentation of possible cancer symptoms

Primary Care engagement with 24/25 WCA campaigns was the best to date. All PCNs supported at least 2 WCA campaigns, which significantly increased the reach of cancer awareness messaging across the Wessex population.