

Discovery Programme

Introduction to the Royal College of General Practitioners Prof Maureen Baker CBE DM FRCGP



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RCGP



- UK and International College
- 50,000 members
- Devolved Councils in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland
- Headquarters, 30 Euston Square "the home of general practice"
- Cancer is standing clinical priority so always have clinical focus on cancer



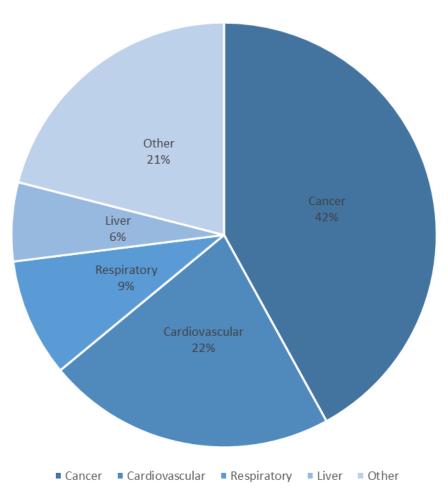


Why the focus on cancer?



Premature (<75) deaths by clinical domain:

Under 75 deaths









On average an 8 session GP will see a new case every:

All cancers	6 weeks
Breast	8 months
Lung	10 months
Colorectal	10 months
Prostate	10 months
Pancreas	4 years
Cervix	11 years

www.cancerresearchuk.org/cancer-info/cancerstats/incidence







- On average an 8 session GP sees 160 patients a week
- On average there is a new case of cancer every 1000 consultations
- Significant proportion of GPs work fewer than 8 sessions per week

www.cancerresearchuk.org/cancer-info/cancerstats/incidence







- Currently site specific referral pathways
- GPs see patients with symptoms, not diagnoses
- Significant proportion of patients have symptoms that COULD relate to cancer
- GPs trained to consider effective referrals on whole system
- Rework system to allow symptom referral pathways in ways that don't cause system overload and harm to patients who DON'T have cancer







- Unify GP access to diagnostics of consistent quality
- Expand diagnostic options
- Enable increased "readiness" to refer in context of functioning system overall
- Restore ease of access to advice from
 - Hospital Consultant Colleagues





Conclusion



- General practice has done well with the funding and diagnostic access available
- However plenty of room for improvement
 - More investment required in general practice services
 - Greater support for GPs and practice teams
- Await recommendations from Cancer Taskforce



