



NLCA Newsletter, January 2026

Want to hear more?

The NLCA is part of the National Cancer Audit Collaborating Centre (NATCAN). If you want to find out more about NATCAN visit our [new website](#). If you would like to receive regular updates send us an email NATCAN@rcseng.ac.uk

NLCA Quality Improvement (QI) intervention

 

Improving Access to LCNS Care
National Lung Cancer Audit Quality Improvement Initiative, in collaboration with Lung Cancer Nursing UK

10 Steps to Improving Access to LCNS Care:

1. Review your data in the NLCA Dashboard
2. Train All Staff
3. Monthly Validation
4. Check Caseloads
5. Review Job Plans
6. Build the Case
7. Strengthen MDT Links
8. Collaborate with CNS Teams

The NLCA launched our **Quality Improvement (QI) intervention** at the start of November 2025. We are working with NHS trusts to try to **improve access to Lung Cancer Nurse Specialist (LCNS) care**. NLCA data shows variation in both LCNS provision and recording of LCNS contact across trusts. For the first quarter, we sent feedback letters to 14 trusts with either lower performance or recent improvements, as well as recognising those who demonstrated excellent practice. **Thank you to those trusts who have already returned their completed proformas/action plan templates**. Later this month, we will be contacting the next tranche and then every quarter going forward. This will help us to build a catalogue of success to highlight examples of excellent service delivery. For more information, please see our [QI intervention posters](#) on the NATCAN website. Thank you to Lung Cancer Nursing UK (LCNUK) for their ongoing support and collaboration.

RCR webinar

Take a listen to **Dr John Conibear**, NLCA Clinical Lead – Oncology, presenting at a **webinar on 12th November 2025** hosted by the Royal College of Radiologists (RCR). He shared important details on the most recent NLCA reporting, data collection and impact of the audit. The recording can be found [here](#).

January data dashboard

The latest update to the [NLCA interactive data dashboard](#) was published on our website on **8th January 2026**. The January quarterly data dashboard includes more recent data: **patients in England diagnosed up to 31st March 2025**. As always, we hope you find the dashboard useful and welcome any feedback from users to help us refine the dashboards further (nlca@rcseng.ac.uk).

NLCA State of the Nation Report 2026

The **NLCA State of the Nation Report 2026** is due to be published on our [website](#) on **12th February 2026**, subject to clearance and sign-off. This is earlier than previous years to align better with the professional society conferences, where we present our results. The report will summarise the performance of lung cancer services in England and Wales and will include **patients diagnosed in 2024**. The report includes five recommendations for trusts and health boards to work towards, and a local action plan template will be provided to help with this. Alongside this, we will be publishing a methodology supplement, a State of the Nation 2026 data dashboard, full data tables and a patient and public version of the State of the Nation Report.

