



## Understanding Practice in the National Clinical Audit and Patient Outcomes Programme (UPCARE) - Programme section

<b>1.00 Programme name</b>	<b>National Cancer Audit Collaborating Centre</b>
<b>1.01 Abbreviation</b>	NATCAN (in contract as NCACC)
<b>1.1 Contract status</b>	Ongoing
<b>1.2 Audit or non-audit</b>	Audit
<b>1.3 HQIP commissioned*</b>	Yes
<b>1.40 Programme unique identifier*</b>	N/A
<b>1.41 HQIP AD</b>	CR
<b>1.42 HQIP PM</b>	SW
<b>1.5 Lead organisation*</b>	Royal College of Surgeons of England
<b>1.6 Programme homepage*</b>	<a href="https://www.natcan.org.uk/">https://www.natcan.org.uk/</a>
<b>1.7 Programme summary</b>	<p>The National Cancer Audit Collaborating Centre was established as a new national centre of excellence in October 2022 with the aim of strengthening NHS cancer services by looking at treatments and patient outcomes across the country.</p> <p>The Centre was commissioned for an initial three-year period by the Healthcare Quality Improvement Partnership, on behalf of NHS England and the Welsh government. It is based within the Clinical Effectiveness Unit (CEU), an academic partnership between the Royal College of Surgeons of England and the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine.</p> <p>NATCAN will bring national cancer audits together in one place, enabling us to share best practice and clinical excellence as part of the overall strategy of improving healthcare. Each audit will develop explicit goals aiming to improve cancer outcomes and the experience of patients.</p> <p>NATCAN focuses on the three Rs, ensuring that all its activities are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• clinically <b>relevant</b> (asking the right questions as a result of close collaboration between clinical and academic experts)</li> <li>• methodologically <b>robust</b> (using the best epidemiological and statistical approaches to carry out fair comparisons between hospitals)</li> <li>• technically <b>rigorous</b> (making sure data science is put to the best use, in order to drive quality improvement)</li> </ul>

### NATCAN's objectives

NATCAN is part of the National Clinical Audit and Patient Outcomes Programme (NCAPOP). Its overall aim is to drive improvements in cancer care and outcomes by bringing the standard of all cancer teams in England and Wales up to that of the best. NATCAN will deliver quality improvement (QI) in cancer care by:

1. Providing regular and timely evidence to cancer services, which will allow them to see where patterns of care in England and Wales vary.
2. Supporting NHS services to identify the reasons for the variation in care in order to improve quality, and create change where it is needed.
3. Using data to help create more effective methods of detecting and treating cancer, and to improve outcomes, including better rates of survival.

NATCAN will also play an important coordinating role. Individual audits will collaborate closely with all relevant stakeholders to help improve the quality of care in their individual cancer areas, while NATCAN will provide additional value. It will ensure that there is consistency and standardisation in the delivery of cancer audits; and it will promote learning across different audit topics by sharing skills, expertise and knowledge among all its audit teams.

<b>2.1 Organogram</b>	<a href="https://www.natcan.org.uk/resources/2675/">https://www.natcan.org.uk/resources/2675/</a>
<b>2.2 Organisations involved in delivering the programme</b>	<a href="#">NATCAN Organogram - National Cancer Audit Collaborating Centre</a>
<b>2.3 Governance arrangements</b>	<a href="#">Our Team - National Cancer Audit Collaborating Centre (natcan.org.uk)</a>
<b>2.4 Stakeholder engagement</b>	<p>Key NATCAN updates are captured <a href="#">here</a> which are disseminated to all NATCAN stakeholders as relevant.</p> <p><a href="#">Our approach - National Cancer Audit Collaborating Centre (natcan.org.uk)</a></p> <p><a href="#">NATCAN publishes the scope and quality improvement priorities for each cancer audit. - National Cancer Audit Collaborating Centre</a></p> <p>We are now on <a href="#">LinkedIn</a>.</p>
<b>2.5 Conflict of interest policy</b>	<a href="https://www.natcan.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2024/03/NATCAN-COI-Policy-31.10.23-V1.1.pdf">https://www.natcan.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2024/03/NATCAN-COI-Policy-31.10.23-V1.1.pdf</a>
<b>3.1 Quality improvement goals</b>	<p><a href="#">NATCAN publishes the scope and quality improvement priorities for each cancer audit. - National Cancer Audit Collaborating Centre</a></p> <p>The NATCAN Quality Improvement Plans have been <a href="#">published</a>. A summary document <a href="#">of the NATCAN QI goals and performance indicators</a> has also been published.</p>
<b>3.3a Methods for stimulating quality improvement*</b>	National Clinical Audit Benchmarking (NCAB) tool (via CQC); Getting It Right First Time (GIRFT); NHS England improvement programme; Welsh Government improvement programme; Action plan template; Workshops; Sharing good practice repository
<b>3.3b Quality improvement supplemental information</b>	<a href="#">Links to Quality Improvement Resources - National Cancer Audit Collaborating Centre (natcan.org.uk)</a>

**4a. Please add the most recent date that you have reviewed and updated an online version of UPCARE Programme section on your project's website (click into the response to see pop-up guidance).**

10/03/2025

**4b. Please add a hyperlink to UPCARE Programme section on your website (click into the response to see pop-up guidance).\***

<https://www.natcan.org.uk/resources/natcan-upcare-tool/>