



NPaCA

National Pancreatic
Cancer Audit

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NPaCA Newsletter, April 2026

Want to hear more?

Please feel free to forward this newsletter to colleagues who are involved in pancreatic cancer care.
If you were forwarded this email and would like to be added to our mailing list, please [email us](#)

Quality Improvement Intervention

Our Quality Improvement (QI) work aims to increase the percentage of people with non-metastatic (stage 1-3) pancreatic cancer who receive disease-targeted treatment. We have selected this performance indicator as the focus of our QI work, as our data analysis has shown that among this group of people, only 57% have any disease-targeted treatment.

We are taking a number of approaches, including:

- Providing enhanced feedback
- Supporting monitoring of progress
- Sharing good practice.

We are in regular contact with NHS England's Treatment Variation Working Group to ensure that activities are complementary.

To help support Cancer Alliances, we have developed a number of helpful resources, including an [Optimal Care guidance document](#) (as seen) and a number of short films; both of which have been produced in partnership with our colleagues at [Pancreatic Cancer UK](#). Look out for these on our social media channels!

Access our QI resources on our NPaCA web pages here:
www.natcan.org.uk/audits/pancreatic/quality-improvement

OPTIMAL CARE GUIDANCE

Pancreatic CANCER UK

NPaCA
Part of the National Cancer Audit Collaborating Centres

This represents the latest guidance for delivering optimal care for pancreatic cancer in England, developed in partnership with the National Pancreatic Cancer Audit (NPaCA).

This aims to support the NPaCA [Quality Improvement Intervention](#) to increase treatment rates for people with pancreatic cancer. In addition the NPaCA team will provide bespoke feedback to Cancer Alliances about their trusts' treatment rates and share examples of good practice. This guidance should be used alongside the [NICE Guideline NG88](#) and [Hepato-pancreatic biliary \(HPB\) Service specification](#).

Optimal Care Pathway

What? Pancreatic Cancer UK convened over 300 healthcare professionals and patients to develop six [recommendations for optimal care](#) (2023). These have formed guiding principles across the patient pathway for projects referenced in this briefing.

Key benefit Provides an overview of key recommendations for clinical practice across the whole pathway for pancreatic cancer.

Best Practice Timed Pathway

What? NHS England's timed [HPB cancer diagnostic pathway](#) (2024) is designed to shorten time between referral and diagnosis, reduce variation and improve patient experience. It urges providers to diagnose aggressive cancers, such as pancreatic in 21 days; faster than the 28-day Faster Diagnosis Standard.

Key benefit Provides guidance on how to ensure more patients receive their diagnosis before they become too unwell to access or tolerate treatment.

National Pancreatic Cancer Audit

What? The [National Pancreatic Cancer Audit](#) (established 2022) evaluates patterns of care and outcomes for people with pancreatic cancer in England and Wales. It aims to highlight variations support NHS services to identify and address areas for improvement.

Key benefit Regular reporting of Trust and Cancer Alliance-level performance against the national average for the Quality Improvement (QI) indicator.

Getting It Right First Time

What? The [GIBET national report for pancreatic cancer](#) (2025) brings together national data, local insight and case studies showcasing exemplary practice in pancreatic cancer care and sets out evidence-based recommendations for improving outcomes.

Key benefit Contains new approaches and innovations in managing pancreatic cancer care that can support clinical leaders to deliver transformational improvements.

Data dashboards update!

A further update to our interactive Data dashboards was published on the 9th of April 2026.

We publish Cancer Alliance and trust-level information on a quarterly basis (For England only at present) to support providers in monitoring their performance.

This latest version includes a new visualisation presenting data completeness alongside performance indicators at trust level for our Clinical Nurse Specialist metric.

We'd very much welcome your feedback!

Access the NPaCA Data dashboards [here](#).

Patient and Public Involvement (PPI)

In February we held a further meeting of NPaCA's Patient and Public Involvement (PPI) Forum; where there was a wide range of discussions on the audit's activities.

We were particularly pleased to welcome three new members to the group; all with lived-experience of pancreatic cancer and able to offer the project team with valuable insights for its work.

Thank you to all of our members for their ongoing support and contributions!



Social media update

From the 1st of May, we will no longer be actively posting on our NPaCA X channel; therefore, please stay up to date with all our news via our NPaCA BlueSky and Linked In channels. Thank you.

[npaca-natcan@bsky](https://www.bsky.app/profile/npaca-natcan@bsky)

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Clinical Director vacancy

We are recruiting a Clinical Director for the National Cancer Audit Collaborating Centre. This senior role will provide clinical leadership across our national cancer audits. Applications close on 20 April. Find out more [here](#).



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