

THE CANCER VANGUARD

The Cancer Vanguard is a partnership that is pioneering new ways of delivering cancer services. It consists of three local delivery systems – Greater Manchester Cancer Vanguard Innovation in Greater Manchester, RM Partners in north west and south west London, and UCLH Cancer Collaborative covering north east and central London and west Essex – that are working together to pilot and test new care models that can be replicated nationally.

Why was the Vanguard set up?

In January 2015, the NHS invited individual organisations to apply to become ‘Vanguard’ sites for the NHS England New Care Models programme. This was one of the first steps towards delivering the Five Year Forward View and supporting improvement and integration of services.

In October 2015 the national Cancer Vanguard was established as an Acute Care Collaboration Vanguard to contribute to the delivery of the key outcomes from the National Cancer Strategy.

What are the Vanguard’s aims?

The Cancer Vanguard aims to radically improve cancer outcomes and patient experience. Half of all people born since 1960 will be diagnosed with cancer at some point in their lives. Moreover, an estimated two million people in England are living with and beyond a cancer diagnosis, a figure that is projected to rise to 3.4 million by 2030.

Our two-year programme spans the whole cancer pathway. It has a particular focus on early diagnosis and detection because this has the greatest potential to improve survival outcomes and patient experience. However, our work also focuses on cancer prevention, reducing unwarranted variation through the development and implementation of evidence-based best practice pathways; improving and enhancing experience and quality of life for everyone living with and beyond cancer; improving access to expert palliative and end-of-life care; GP training and cancer intelligence.

We are also exploring new models for contracting and funding cancer services, and developing innovative partnerships with the pharmaceutical industry for the better use of cancer medicines.

The combined population covered by the Cancer Vanguard is around 10.7 million, which gives us an unprecedented opportunity to test innovative projects on a large scale. All our projects are intended to be replicable elsewhere in the country so we will share our learning as we progress.

Our guiding principles

The guiding principles of our work include:

- Ensuring that outcomes that matter to patients and families are at its centre
- Ensuring the work programme will be in the best interests of the cancer population of London and Greater Manchester, not that of individual organisations

- Using clinically-led measurement and evidence to set the level of ambition and inform learning and improvement
- Developing robust governance and streamlined commissioning and delivery processes focused on transformational change that delivers good stewardship of resources.

How can I find out more?

For more information, please visit **cancervanguard.nhs.uk** or contact us on one of these addresses:

Greater Manchester Cancer Vanguard Innovation: cancervanguard.gm@nhs.net

RM Partners: rmpartners.cancervanguard@nhs.net

UCLH Cancer Collaborative: cancervanguard@uclh.nhs.uk