ACE 2 Project
The Multi-Disciplinary Diagnostic Centre
The Multi-Disciplinary Diagnostic Centre (MDC) pathway seeks to expedite or exclude cancer diagnosis for patients within the Airedale, Wharfedale and Craven CCG network.

The Multi-Disciplinary Diagnostic Centre operates one day a week from two clinic rooms located in Main Outpatients with four patient slots. The MDC went live on the 17th of January and averages 4 referrals per week.
The objective of the pathway is to test the practicality and feasibility of a rapid access diagnostic service where cancer is excluded or diagnosed within 28 days. The project team agreed the following targets for the pathway.

- Patient triaged within 24 hours of referral received from GP
- 30 minute telephone assessment conducted by CNS within 48 hours
- Commence diagnostics within 72 hours
- Patient is seen face to face by the Medical Oncologist and CNS in the MDC main outpatient clinic within 7 days
- Cancer diagnosed or excluded – second referral with GP summary
The MDC Patient Pathway

- **GP**
  - Referral sent to MDC
  - Triage by CNS
  - CNS telephone assessment
  - Diagnostics arranged i.e. CT
  - Review of diagnostics further test requested if required i.e. Endoscopy
  - Patient seen in MDC Clinic by Medical Oncologist/CNS
  - Management plan review
  - Acute admission
  - Refer to Cancer Team Other Speciality
  - Discharge from MDC
  - Summary letter to GP

- **A&E**
  - Referral sent to MDC

- **Airedale NHS Foundation Trust**
Patient Criteria

The MDC is focused on delivering the best possible patient care. To ensure the MDC provides a positive experience, the following patient symptoms need to be presented:

- Unexplained rapid weight loss within the last three months
- Recurrent unexplained abdominal pain
- Has previously attended primary care presenting same symptoms
- Intuition or GP gut feeling
- Must have had blood tests and chest X-Ray within the last month
- Patient made aware that they are being referred for suspected Cancer
What Have We Learnt So Far?

Analysis of 62 comparative patients from 2016 showed the following stats:

**Waiting Time First OPA**
- Less than 24hrs admitted: 37%
- Less than 14 days 2WW: 56%
- Over 14 days: 7%

**Stage of Diagnosis**
- No Cancer: 32%
- T1: 8%
- T2: 21%
- T3: 15%
- T4: 24%

Cancer Research UK
We Are Macmillan Cancer Support
NHS England
Following a review of our current stats, on average MDC patients are waiting a total of 12 days from GP or A&E referral to diagnosis of Cancer or exclusion.
Continual Improvement

To ensure we are providing the best possible care for the MDC patient’s, we use a uniquely formatted patient tick box survey that enables the team to capture the necessary feedback and data to continually improve the MDC service.

Patient and staff engagement is also critical to improving patient experience, Airedale plan to host a patient focus group in September 2017 and chat to our patients and provide storyboards.
The MDC Team

- Dr Dan Lee - Medical Oncologist
- Dawn Gulliford - Cancer Service Manager Airedale
- Dr Helena Rolfe - GP Cancer Lead
- Janet Hargreaves - AWC Cancer Commissioner
- Danielle Longworth - Project Manager
- Claire Waddington - Cancer Nurse Specialist
- Jo Chester – ACE Admin Support
- Adele Barnes – ACE Admin Support
Thank you