INTRODUCTION

Cancer Research UK (CRUK) is committed to promoting improved cancer survival of 3 in 4 by 2034.1

Cancer Research UK supported the implementation of NICE guidance suspected cancer – recognition and referral (June 2015), through the development of education and resources in partnership with the RCGP.

• NICE guidance infographics (Figure 1)
• NICE guidance desk easel (Figure 2)
• RCGP e-learning cancer toolkit:
• CRUK faculty workshops accredited by the RCGP

Figure 1.

WORKSHOP ACTIVITY

CRUK faculty workshops were RCGP accredited and focused on improving knowledge, understanding and awareness of the expanding role of primary care in cancer control, NG 12 guidance implementation and the relevance of cancer recognition, referral, conversion and detection.

In 2015/16 a total 221 general practitioners attended CRUK sponsored faculty workshops shown in Figure 3.

Each General Practitioner (attendee) was requested to complete a pre and post workshop evaluation, the impact of which is summarised below:

• Attendees rated their knowledge and awareness of the expanding role of primary care in cancer control as high or very high increased by 72.5% (pre and post evaluation scores)
• 95% of attendees rated the workshop as being very or extremely relevant to their role and only 1.2% thought that it had little relevance to their role
• 89% of attendees believed that attending the workshop will improve their practice. Only 1.1% thought that it would have little impact.

KEY ‘TAKE HOMES’

• Significance of a lowered positive predictive value (PPV) of 3%
• Relevance of raised thrombocytosis (raised platelets) and cancer risk
• Relevance of haematuria as a symptom of both urological and endometrial cancer
• Relevance of a full blood count for patients with haematuria
• Importance of using a weighted 7 point score for pigmented lesions

Figure 3.

CONCLUSION

The faculty workshops (pre workshop survey) identified a lack of knowledge and understanding of NICE guidance (NG 12) and a limited appreciation of primary care in cancer control.

Post evaluation survey following the faculty workshops identified the improvement in knowledge understanding and potential adoption into clinical practice of NG 12. The workshops captured key ‘take homes’ identified by attendees.

General practitioner faculty workshops provided a forum to explore cancer recognition and referral practice through an appreciation of research and evidence base presented by CRUK and framed within the context of Achieving World-Class Outcomes – a Strategy for England 2015–2020,1 and agreed recommendations. It is important to reference workshops as a successful mechanism to explore and distil, evidence based guidance and research into clinical practice, aligned to delivering improved cancer outcomes.

WHAT NEXT?

In 2016/17 CRUK will support faculty workshops in England, and seek opportunities within devolved nations focusing on:

• Implementation of NICE guidance (NG12) suspected cancer recognition and referral
• Improving capacity and capability to support the enhanced role of primary care in cancer control
• Support general practitioners to ‘make every contact count’ to reduce patients cancer risk
• Recognising that 42% of cancers are preventable2

REFERENCES

5. http://www.cancerresearchuk.org/health-professional/cancer-treatment/surgery-
7. http://www.cancerresearchuk.org/health-professional/cancer-treatment/surgery-