NICE: SUSPECTED CANCER RECOGNITION AND REFERRAL SYMPTOM REFERENCE GUIDE

**KEY**
- CRUK’s Oral Cancer Toolkit recommends

**BLEEDING**
- Unexplained bruising, bleeding, petechiae
- Haematemesis
- Haematochezia
- Post-menopausal
- Rectal bleeding with abdominal pain/change in bowel habit/weight loss
- Retic 50+
- Vulval

**NEUROLOGICAL**
- Loss of central neurological function (progressive)

**ABDOMINAL**
- ABDOMINAL DISTENSION
- Abdominal mass
- ABDOMINAL/PELVIC/RECTAL PAIN
- Suggestive of ovarian pathology

**ORAL LESIONS**
- ORAL LESIONS
- Unexplained lesion (>5mm)
- Oral red / red & white patches

**RESPIRATORY**
- CHEST INFECTION
- Persistent (or recurrent) 40+

**LUMPS/MASSES**
- LUMPS/MASSES
- Anal
- Breast 30+
- Breast >30
- Lymphadenopathy

**SKIN**
- SKIN OR SURFACE SYMPTOMS
- Anal ulceration
- Blistering
- Nipple unilateral changes (including those ‘of concern’) 50+
- Penile lesion mass (excluded)
- Pigmented lesions at 1 point 7 point score 5+
- Lesion suggestive of nodular melanoma
- Lesion suggestive of SCC
- Lesion suggestive of BCC
- Lesion suggestive of SCC in concern that treatment delay may have a significant impact

**SKELETAL SYMPTOMS**
- Back pain with weight loss 60+
- Back pain (persistent) 60+
- Bum pain (persistent) 60+
- Fracture (unexplained) 60+

**INVESTIGATION FINDINGS**
- CRR SIGNS LUNG CANCER/ MESOTHELIOMA
- CYTOSCOPY MELANOMA
- NEW OESTRUS/ENGRAVIDITY WITH WEIGHT LOSS 55+
- DRE SIGNS PROSTATE CANCER:
- *ERYTHRO- AND CONSISTENT WITH MELANOMA
- *FAUCI
- *JACQUES 40+
- *PLATELETS WITH NAUSEA/ VOMITING/WEIGHT LOSS 55+
- *PLATELETS 40+
- PLATELETS WITH VISIBLE HAMATURIA/UNEXPLAINED HAEMATURIA 55+
- PLATELETS WITH VISIBLE HAEMATURIA/UNEXPLAINED HAEMATURIA
- PSA ABOVE AGE SPECIFIC RANGE
- UREINE PROTEIN ELECTROPHORESIS SIGNOGS MELANOMA
- UUS SIGNS OVARIAN CANCER
- UUS SIGNS BREAST CANCER
- XRAYS SIGNS BONE CANCER

**GYNACEOLOGICAL**
- CA125 >150U/L (UUS)
- CA125 >15U/mL OR >15U/mL WITH NORMAL ULTRASOUND
- *LOW HRC AND CONSISTENT WITH MELANOMA 60+

**CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE**
- PRURITUS
- CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE
- ABDOMINAL SYMPTOMS
- Abdominal mass or abdominal organ
- Splenomegaly
- Parental concern (persistent)

**PRIMARY CARE INVESTIGATIONS**
- US/CRS suggest liver disease

**ABDOMINAL/PELVIC/RECTAL MASS**
- Suggestive of ovarian pathology

**SKIN/SURFACE SYMPTOMS**
- Bone pain/swelling (unexplained):
- Bone pain (persistent or unexplained):
- Fracture (unexplained)

**GUARDIAN**
- FCO 20!

**RESPIRATORY**
- CHEST INFECTION
- Persistent (or recurrent) 40+
- Chest pain (unexplained) with cough/fatigue/SOB/weight loss/appeal loss 40+
- Cough (unexplained) 40+ ever

**DIARRHOEA**
- With weight loss in 55+
- Treatment resistant 55+

**SPLENOLOGY**
- Visible haematuria women 55+

**DIABETES**
- Ever smoked/asbestos exposed

**FATIGUE**
- With weight loss in 55+
- Without rectal bleeding <60+
- Rectal bleeding

**RECTAL EXAMINATION**
- Prostate feels malignant

**REFUX**
- With weight loss in 55+

**NAUSEA OR VOMITING**
- Weight loss 60+

**NAUSEA OR VOMITING**
- With platelets/weight loss/disfigurement/upper abdominal pain in 55+

**CHANGES IN BOWEL PATTERN**
- Unexplained 60+

**BACK PAIN**
- Bruising (unexplained):
- With platelets/nausea/vomiting

**SKELETAL SYMPTOMS**
- Back pain with weight loss 60+
- Back pain (persistent) 60+
- Bum pain (persistent) 60+
- Fracture (unexplained) 60+

**INVESTIGATION FINDINGS**
- CRR SIGNS LUNG CANCER/ MESOTHELIOMA
- CYTOSCOPY MELANOMA
- NEW OESTRUS/ENGRAVIDITY WITH WEIGHT LOSS 55+
- DRE SIGNS PROSTATE CANCER:
- *ERYTHRO- AND CONSISTENT WITH MELANOMA
- *FAUCI
- *JACQUES 40+
- *PLATELETS WITH NAUSEA/ VOMITING/WEIGHT LOSS 55+
- *PLATELETS 40+
- PLATELETS WITH VISIBLE HAMATURIA/UNEXPLAINED HAEMATURIA 55+
- PLATELETS WITH VISIBLE HAEMATURIA/UNEXPLAINED HAEMATURIA
- PSA ABOVE AGE SPECIFIC RANGE
- UREINE PROTEIN ELECTROPHORESIS SIGNOGS MELANOMA
- UUS SIGNS OVARIAN CANCER
- UUS SIGNS BREAST CANCER
- XRAYS SIGNS BONE CANCER

**GYNACEOLOGICAL**
- GYNACEOLOGICAL
- Carcin - cancerous appearance
- Vulval mass (unexplained and palpable) in or at entrance to vagina
- Vulval bleeding

**SKIN**
- SKIN OR SURFACE SYMPTOMS
- Anal ulceration
- Blistering
- Nipple unilateral changes (including those ‘of concern’) 50+
- Penile lesion mass (excluded)
- Pigmented lesions at 1 point 7 point score 5+
- Lesion suggestive of nodular melanoma
- Lesion suggestive of SCC
- Lesion suggestive of BCC
- Lesion suggestive of SCC in concern that treatment delay may have a significant impact
- Vulval lump (unexplained)

**PAIN**
- Liver/Kidney pain:
- Back pain with weight loss 60+
- Back pain (persistent) 60+
- Breast pain (persistent) 60+
- Fracture (unexplained) 60+

MARCH 2016

If you have feedback or want more information please contact earlydiagnosis@cancer.org.uk

[1] Local direct referral route is not available, refer to specialist

This is a summary of the NICE guidelines for suspected cancer (NG12). The information in this summary is correct to the best of our knowledge but does not replace clinical judgement. The full guidelines can be found here https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ng12