Consider referral/investigations OR planned/patient-initiated review

Practice system for communicating abnormal test results to patient

Check up to date patient contact details
Tell patient:
- Reason for tests
- Who will make follow-up appointment
- When to return for results

Practice system to check & log:
- Patient appointment attendance
- Patient receives results
- Results viewed and acted on (including investigations ordered by locums)

ABNORMAL RESULTS

Practice system for communicating abnormal test results to patient

NORMAL RESULTS

Practice system to check & log:
- Patient appointment attendance
- Patient receives results
- Results viewed and acted on (including investigations ordered by locums)

CANCER CONFIRMED

CANCER EXCLUDED

NEW OR RECURRING SYMPTOMS

Consider further tests/investigations

Patient communication

GP consultation

Practice process/system

Education

SAFETY NETTING SUMMARY

CANCER SUSPECTED

URGENT CANCER REFERRAL/INVESTIGATIONS

NO INVESTIGATIONS/REFERRALS BUT CANCER IS POSSIBLE

REPEATED CONSULTATIONS FOR SAME SYMPTOMS?

Patient presents/re-presents to GP

PATIENT PRESENTS/RE-PRESENTS TO GP

CANCER SUSPECTED

REFERENCES


ALSO CONSIDER...

- Keep up to date with referral guidelines for suspected cancer
- Conduct an annual audit of new cancer diagnoses
- Carry out a Significant Event Audit (SEA) of every delayed diagnosis of cancer

Communicate to patient:
- Uncertainty
- When to come back if symptoms persist
- Red flag symptom/changes

Log safety netting advice in notes and code symptoms
Process for follow-up including who