

# Quality of Life Metric UHS Newsletter

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## WELCOME!



**Prof Alison  
Richardson  
Project Lead**

This is the first newsletter that aims to update you with the progress of the NHS England funded Quality of Life Metric project here at Southampton General Hospital. The project offers us an opportunity to invite colorectal and prostate cancer patients to complete a questionnaire to learn more about their health and wellbeing at the end of their cancer treatment.

Over the last few months fantastic progress has been made with the first few patients being invited to take part in the project. We have received positive feedback from patients who tested an early version and they are keen to help cancer patients of the future.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who have been involved in the project so far. We appreciate all the hard work that you are putting in and look forward to continuing to work with you over the coming months.



**Alison Keen  
Project Lead**

## Project Aims

This project aims to transform the way patient reported outcomes are measured and used to improve service delivery and deliver better care and support for people living with and beyond cancer. This pilot project aims to test and refine the data collection and analysis methods to create a National Quality of Life Metric for cancer and prepare for national rollout. Southampton General Hospital is acting as a pilot site in the project. Our role is to:

- Test and develop digital data collection methods. At UHS we are using My Medical Record;
- Develop and test a methods of collecting paper questionnaires in patients who cant or wont use the digital questionnaire;
- Collect data and transfer this to Public Health England for analysis and reporting;
- Contribute to a pilot evaluation, including information on feasibility and acceptability of data collection;
- Contribute to understanding the impact of the data collection on local services, and feed into plans for national rollout.

## Recruitment Update

**Prostate  
Recruitment  
So Far:**

Invited= 80  
Completed= 51  
Declined= 1  
**Questionnaire completion  
rate= 64%**

**Colorectal  
Recruitment  
So Far:**

Invited= 69  
Completed= 28  
Declined= 2  
**Questionnaire completion  
rate= 41%**

## Pilot Sites

The Quality of Life Metric involves the following sites (as shown on the map):

- Northern Cancer Alliance
- Cheshire & Merseyside Cancer Alliance
- East of England Cancer Alliance
- North Central & North East London
- Wessex Cancer Alliance





## Eligible Patients

Emily, our Support Worker for the metric project, has been busy identifying eligible patients. Patients are eligible to receive a questionnaire if they meet the following criteria:

- Finished their cancer treatment for colorectal or prostate (other sites are also including breast cancer patients);
  - Treated with curative intent (patients with metastatic disease are excluded);
  - Patients on monitoring pathways for prostate cancer (active surveillance, watchful waiting) are not eligible;
  - Patients receiving hormone therapy are eligible only if they have received other treatment with curative intent.
- There are three possible time points when a patient might receive an invitation to complete the questionnaire:
1. At the end of treatment (0-6 months post treatment);
  2. 12 months post end of treatment (11-13 months inclusive);
  3. 13-24 months post end of treatment.

To date, Emily has been identifying patients in groups 2 and 3 who completed their cancer treatment in the previous 12-24 months. However, going forward we shall begin to focus on identifying patients who have recently completed their treatment. Please mention the project to patients approaching end of treatment or who have completed their treatment and ask them to look out for an invite. Posters designed by NHS England will shortly be arriving and can be displayed in clinics to help promote the project.

## Metric Questionnaires

Eligible patients at Southampton will be invited to complete an electronic questionnaire on My Medical Record (see login page below). Patients are sent an email invitation containing a link to the questionnaire and information page. Patients when necessary are reminded by text and email at 2 weeks with a telephone reminder at 4 weeks. Paper questionnaires will be available for patients who are non-IT users. We are currently waiting for NHS England to finalise the paper questionnaires and hope to start sending these out shortly.

## Meet the Metric Team



**Emily Day**  
Support worker



**Dr Sophia Taylor**  
Project Manager



## Contact Us



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