

South Plaza
Marlborough Street
Bristol
BS1 3NX

Dear Colleague

Clinical Senate Council Recommendations

I am writing to you with the output from the Colorectal Cancer Peer Review Project. The Senate Council received the review report and endorsed the recommendations on 11 February 2021.

In 2019/20, the South West Clinical Senate commissioned this review, which was directed by Somerset, Wiltshire, Avon & Gloucestershire (SWAG) and Peninsular Cancer Alliances. Melanie Feldman, Consultant Colorectal Surgeon and Cancer lead for the South West Network and Mike Thomas, Consultant Colorectal Surgeon and member of SWAG Cancer Alliance were appointed as Clinical Leads for the review.

Prior to the Senate Council February meeting; the outcomes from the Peer Review project including an overview of pathways and rebuilding services post-pandemic based on the learning from the Peer Review; were sent to Senate Council members in a slide presentation.

At the Senate Council February meeting, these slides were presented and the recommendations from the review were described (with good practice examples) under 5 pathways decision steps:

1. Processing referrals and initial investigations.
2. If Cancer is found, what other information is needed?
3. What is the right treatment / options?
4. Is this right for the patient?
5. Quality Parameters?

The South West Clinical Senate proposes that these decision steps will enhance the quality of colorectal cancer treatment and care.

Alongside the recommendations, the Clinical Senate proposes that the learnings and experience from the Peer Review Project should be promoted to Commissioners and Providers particularly considering how services will be rebuilt following the pandemic.

A key consideration is the target audience for the recommendations to ensure that the work is promoted and externalised within the Cancer Alliances. The SW Clinical Senate would be interested in working in partnership with the Cancer Alliances to hear how recommendations have been implemented during 2021/22.

Whilst it is recognised that the Clinical Senate recommendations are non-mandatory, we ask that the findings and recommendations from the review report are used as impetus to address issues and improve the standard of colorectal cancer services.

You will find the full report and recommendations attached. Please can you respond with comments by 01 August 2021.

Should you need any further information about this meeting or any other matters relating to the Senate, please contact Ajike Alli-Ameh, Head of South West Clinical Senate at ajike.alliameh@nhs.net .

With best wishes.

Yours sincerely



Dr Sally Pearson
Chair, Clinical Senate South West.