

What is the UCLH Cancer Collaborative?

The [UCLH Cancer Collaborative](#) was created in early 2015 and is a key part of NHS England's new care models 'vanguard' programme. The vanguard programme has been designed to improve patient care and services, as set out in the [Five Year Forward View](#). The national Cancer Vanguard is one of 13 acute care collaboration vanguards. It is a partnership between UCLH Cancer Collaborative, Greater Manchester Cancer Vanguard Innovation and Royal Marsden Partners – serving a population of nearly 11 million people. Together, the 3 cancer vanguard sites are working to change the way cancer care is provided, including transforming the ways we involve patients and the public in our work.

The UCLH Cancer Collaborative aims to:

- Improve overall one year survival to 75% for our entire cancer patient population.
- Diagnose 62% of cancers at stage 1 and 2 by 2020.
- Reduce the number of patients diagnosed in an emergency setting to the national average (currently 20%) or below.
- Achieve and sustain delivery of the [62 day access to treatment target for cancer patients](#) to enable quick diagnosis and treatment.
- Improve patient experience to achieve or exceed national average performance., for example, with a focus on implementation of the [Recovery Package](#) and [stratified follow-up](#).
- Reduce variation in outcomes across the sector.

Pathway Boards and Expert Reference Groups

We have 13 Pathway Boards and 9 Expert Reference Groups (see Appendix 2 for a full list). Each group consists of clinicians and healthcare professionals who are experts in the field, as well as 1-2 people affected by cancer who are experts by virtue of their experience of cancer and of using health services.

Each Pathway Board looks at a group of cancers affecting a different part of the body (for example, skin, lung, breast), referred to as 'tumour sites'. Each Expert Reference Group focuses on a speciality that is common across multiple tumour sites (for example, chemotherapy, radiotherapy or rehabilitation).

Pathway Boards and Expert Reference Groups are mechanisms for driving change within the Collaborative. Their role is to improve cancer care for patients by making recommendations to deliver an integrated care pathway that extends from first presentation of symptoms and diagnosis through to living with and beyond cancer and/or palliative care.

Pathway Boards and Expert Reference Groups aim to address variation in care received by patients, across all tumour groups in the geographical area covered by the UCLH Cancer Collaborative (see map in Appendix 1). They devise, recommend and support initiatives that will improve patient experience and promote best practice in care. For example, developing accessible information for patients, or working with services to identify areas for improvement.

Pathway Boards have Pathway Directors and Expert Reference Groups have Chairs – in both cases, a clinical leader in the field. They set the priorities for their board or group in collaboration with the membership. They are supported by Project Managers, who coordinate the agendas and programme of work.

An example of innovative work led by one of our Pathway Boards making an impact on patient care

The Lung Pathway Board has developed a best practice timed pathway. This pathway maps the possible steps in a patient's journey from the day they were referred with suspected lung cancer to the first day of their treatment, (which should be within 62 days), and advises on the timeline. This will help ensure that patients receive the same quality of care, regardless of where they are treated, and it is designed to reduce the time patients spend waiting for treatment. This is especially important for lung cancer, because early treatment can significantly improve a patient's quality of life and prognosis.

Appendix 1: Map of the area covered by the UCLH Cancer Collaborative

Please note that in order to be join our network of people affected by cancer, you (or the person you care for) must have received your treatment at one of the hospitals on this map.



- North Central London Sustainability and Transformation Partnership
- North East London Sustainability and Transformation Partnership
- West Essex

Barking, Havering and Redbridge University Hospitals NHS Trust (BHRUT)

- 1 King George Hospital
- 2 Queen's Hospital

Barts Health NHS Trust (Barts Health)

- 3 Newham University Hospital
- 4 The Royal London Hospital
- 5 St Bartholomew's Hospital
- 6 Whipps Cross University Hospital
- 7 Great Ormond Street Hospital for Children NHS Foundation Trust
- 8 Homerton University Hospital NHS Foundation Trust
- 9 Moorfields Eye Hospital NHS Foundation Trust

- 10 North Middlesex University Hospital NHS Trust

- 11 Princess Alexandra Hospital NHS Trust

Royal Free London NHS Foundation Trust

- 12 Barnet Hospital
- 13 Chase Farm Hospital
- 14 Royal Free Hospital
- 15 Royal National Orthopaedic Hospital NHS Trust
- 16 University College London Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust (UCLH)
- 17 Whittington Hospital NHS Trust

Appendix 2: list of Pathway Boards and Expert Reference Groups

Pathway Boards
Brain and spine
Breast
Colorectal
Gynaecological
Haematology
Head and neck
Hepato-pancreatic-biliary (HPB)
Lung
Skin
Stomach and Oesophago-gastric (OG)
Urology
Children's cancer network coordinating group (CCNCG)
Teenager and young adults cancer network coordinating group (TYACNCG)
Expert Reference Groups
Acute oncology
Chemotherapy
Living with and Beyond Cancer
Nursing
Psychosocial
Radiotherapy
Rehabilitation