



Oncology bulletin

January/ February 2025

The aim of this current awareness bulletin is to provide a digest of recent guidelines, reports, research and best practice on Oncology

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Cancer Treatments

Delivering a pre-systemic anticancer therapy patient education session

Sam Gayle

Nurse-led pre-SACT patient education sessions aim to inform patients about their treatment, including its potential side effects and what they should do if they experience symptoms to enhance patient safety and to reinforce informed consent. This article discusses the importance of pre-SACT patient education sessions in the context of cytotoxic therapy and details six areas for nurses to consider when planning on delivering such sessions

Cancer Nursing Practice 24 (1) Delivering a pre-systemic anticancer therapy

Current status and future prospects of combined immunotherapy and epidermal growth factor receptor inhibitors in head and neck squamous cell carcinoma

Xin Tian et al

Cancer Treatment Reviews 132 102864

Commissioning Care

Oral healthcare provision for cancer pathways

A guidance document of clinical and commissioning standards.

The aim of this guidance is equitable access to oral healthcare for patients with a diagnosis of cancer across England.

NHS England

Oral healthcare provision for cancer pathways

Diagnosis

Advances and challenges in precision imaging

Advanced imaging technologies are being developed to address some of the current limitations in early detection, treatment selection and planning, drug delivery, and therapeutic response, as well as difficulties posed by drug resistance, drug toxicity, disease monitoring, and metastatic evolution. We discuss key areas of advanced imaging for improving cancer outcomes and survival.



Lancet Oncology 26 (1) e34-e45

General

Benefits of a diverse gut microbiome in systemic anti-cancer therapy patients

The importance of gut health and its role in chronic disease management has become more widely acknowledged in recent years, with an increase in the number of studies focusing on the gut microbiome and the role it plays in chronic disease and inflammation

Beth Pantlin

British Journal of Nursing 34 (1) 8-12

Professional

Using facilitated group sessions to enhance the mental well-being of professionals who support young people with cancer

Healthcare professionals working in cancer care often experience high levels of work-related stress, vicarious trauma and compassion fatigue. Providing care and support to young people diagnosed with cancer can be highly demanding.

Elizabeth Purnell et al

Cancer Nursing Practice

Specific Cancers

Pulmonary neuroendocrine neoplasms: the molecular landscape, therapeutic challenges, and diagnosis and management strategies

Lung neuroendocrine neoplasms are a group of diverse, heterogeneous tumours that range from well-differentiated, low-grade neuroendocrine tumours—such as typical and atypical carcinoids—to high-grade, poorly differentiated aggressive malignancies, such as large-cell neuroendocrine carcinoma (LCNEC) and small-cell lung cancer (SCLC).

Triparna Sen et al

Lancet Oncology 26 (1) e13-e33

Survivorship

Lung cancer: three priorities for improved survival rates

Article explains how healthcare managers can play a key role in driving quality improvements in lung cancer care in the UK. By leveraging best practices and innovative approaches, they can help to ensure that local lung cancer teams deliver the best possible care and outcomes for patients.

David Gilligan

British Journal of Healthcare Management Lung Cancer