Oncology bulletin

July 2026

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

Review
Future of radiotheranostics
Abstract - Radiotheranostics is reshaping precision oncology by integrating molecular imaging with targeted radionuclide therapy through matched diagnostic–therapeutic radiopharmaceutical pairs. Landmark clinical successes, including Lutetium-177-DOTATATE (177Lu-DOTATATE)and 177Lu-prostate-specific membrane antigen-617 (177Lu-PSMA- 617), have validated this approach and accelerated the shift from empiric dosing towards evidence-based practice supported by randomised trials.
Akram Al-Ibraheem
BMJ Oncology 5 (2) e001073 (open access)
10.1136/bmjonc-2026-001073

Diagnosis

Original research
Ovarian cancer diagnosis within 28 days after an emergency admission to hospital: national population-based study of patient risk factors and cancer characteristics using routinely collected data in England
Objectives -To determine the patient characteristics associated with a diagnosis of ovarian cancer following an emergency hospital admission, and to compare cancer characteristics between those diagnosed after emergency admission and those diagnosed by other routes. Methods and analysis We conducted a national population-based study of women diagnosed with ovarian cancer in England between 2017 and 2021. Cancer registration data were linked to hospital data. Poisson regression was used to estimate adjusted risk ratios (adjRRs) that represent associations of patient characteristics with a cancer diagnosis 28 days after emergency admission.
Georgia Zachou et al
BMJ Oncology 5 (2) e001053 (open access)
10.1136/bmjonc-2025-001053

General

Review
Identification and management of genetic susceptibility to cancer: UK perspective
Abstract - Cancer is a genomic disease caused by variants in genes that impact on the regulation of cell division, cell growth and cell death. While the majority of cancers are caused by acquired genomic variation, a significant minority are influenced by inherited genetic variation which can increase the chance of a person developing cancer in their lifetime. Inherited genetic factors can be monogenic or polygenic and also interact with other cancer risk factors to create an individualised risk profile. Understanding personalised cancer risk can facilitate precision screening, prevention and early detection strategies. In this review, we give an overview of constitutional genetic susceptibility to cancer, how to assess and identify enhanced susceptibility and exemplars of how this influences precision management.
Ciaran McCarthy et al
BMJ Oncology 5 (2) e000849 (open access)
10.1136/bmjonc-2025-000849

Original research
Sex differences in the cancer proteome
Objectives - Proteins play a central role in cancer biology. They are the most common drug targets and biomarkers. Sex influences the proteome in many diseases ranging from neurological to cardiovascular. In cancer, sex is associated with incidence, progression and therapeutic response, as well as characteristics of the tumour genome and transcriptome. This study aimed to characterise the extent to which sex differences impact the cancer proteome.
Chenghao Zhu et al
BMJ Oncology 5 (2) e001130 (open access)
10.1136/bmjonc-2026-001130

Specific Cancers

Technology appraisal guidance
Pirtobrutinib for treating relapsed or refractory chronic lymphocytic leukaemia after a BTK inhibitor
NICE Guidance TA 1173

Quality standard
Lung cancer in adults
NICE Guidance QS 17

Technology appraisal guidance

Cemiplimab for treating recurrent or metastatic cervical cancer that has progressed on or after platinum-based chemotherapy
NICE Guidance TA 1174

Technology appraisal guidance
Pembrolizumab with chemoradiotherapy for untreated locally advanced cervical cancer
NICE Guidance TA 177

Research
Robotic versus Open Pancreatoduodenectomy (PORTAL): multicentre, single masked, phase 3, non-inferiority randomised controlled trial
Objective - To determine whether robotic pancreatoduodenectomy (RPD) is non-inferior to open pancreatoduodenectomy (OPD) in terms of postoperative functional recovery, without compromising safety or oncological quality.
Jiabin Jin et al
BMJ 394 (8492) e319692 (open access)
10.1136/bmj-2026-319692

Editorial
Looking inside the primary tumour: what drives immunotherapy response in renal cell carcinoma?
Supriya Peshin et al
BMJ Oncology 5 (2) e001195 (open access)
10.1136/bmjonc-2026-001195

Original research
Investigating the determinants of immunotherapy response in the primary tumour of clear cell renal cell carcinoma (RCC)
Objective - Immune checkpoint inhibitors (ICIs) have demonstrated durable clinical benefit in a subset of patients with metastatic renal cell carcinoma (RCC), yet the molecular features that govern therapeutic response within the primary tumour remain poorly defined. This is of particular importance in the current era, where cytoreductive nephrectomy is less commonly performed and many patients with metastatic disease still have the primary RCC tumour in place. To deepen our understanding of ICI response in the primary tumour and to understand the evolution of RCC on ICI, we conducted a comprehensive genomic analysis of paired pretreatment and post-treatment primary RCC tumours treated with ICI.
Cerise Tang et al
BMJ Oncology 5 (2) e001031 (open access)
10.1136/bmjonc-2025-001031

Original research
Real-world effectiveness of NALIRIFOX versus modified FOLFIRINOX or gemcitabine and nab-paclitaxel in first-line advanced pancreatic adenocarcinoma: a multicentre propensity-matched study

Objective - To compare the real-world effectiveness and recorded safety of first-line Liposomal irinotecan+oxaliplatin+fluorouracil+leucovorin (NALIRIFOX), modified FOLFIRINOX (mFOLFIRINOX) and gemcitabine plus nab-paclitaxel (Gem/NabP) in treatment-naïve patients with advanced pancreatic ductal adenocarcinoma (PDAC) in Thailand.
Tawasapon Thambamroong et al
BMJ Oncology 5 (2) e001085 (open access)
10.1136/bmjonc-2026-001085