



# Oncology bulletin

March 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

### **Whole-body integral dose and post-radiotherapy lymphocytopenia in solid tumours**

*Since modern radiotherapy techniques such as intensity-modulated radiotherapy (IMRT) pivot on a strategy of dose redistribution, it may increase integral dose and consequently worsening of lymphocytopenia. In this study, our objective was twofold: first to validate the correlation between integral body dose and post-treatment lymphocytopenia in a cohort of patients treated with curative-intent radiotherapy and second to validate its prognostic impact.*

Nuradh Joseph et al

BMJ Oncology 2025 4 e000522

### **Personalised cancer vaccines and new regulatory struggles**

*On Feb 3, 2025, the UK Medicines and Healthcare Products Agency (MHRA) released preliminary guidance on personalised mRNA cancer immunotherapies (also known as cancer vaccines) with an 8-week consultation period, during which they invite stakeholders (eg, developers and patients) to provide feedback. mRNA therapies have shown potential to address gaps in the prevention and treatment of cancer; however, they are markedly different from conventional cancer therapies and careful consideration of the regulatory framework for these potential new therapies is needed*

Lancet Oncology 26 (3) 265

### **Dual Approaches in Oncology: The Promise of siRNA and Chemotherapy Combinations in Cancer Therapies**

*The use of small interfering RNA (siRNA) combined with cancer drugs is a ground breaking approach that aims to improve cancer treatment. By targeting specific genes that are active in cancer cells but not in healthy ones, siRNA can effectively block harmful processes that allow tumors to grow and spread.*

Carolina Sousa et al



Onco 5 (1) 2

**The Role of Therapeutic Vaccines in Cancer Immunotherapy**

*Cancer vaccines represent a promising approach to immunotherapy, offering patients a potentially safe and effective alternative treatment with minimal toxic side effects. Recent findings indicate that the efficacy of these vaccines depends heavily on the strength of the immune response they elicit and on the tumor's immunogenic modulation.*

Constantin N. Baxevanis et al

Onco 5 (1)11

**Diagnosis**

**Screening for multiple cancers: evaluation must go beyond aggregate measures**

Tom Callender and colleagues argue that outcomes for individual cancers will need to be assessed to inform decisions about the use of multicancer tests for screening

Callender, T et al

BMJ 388 e081098

**A systematic review comparing surveillance recommendations for the detection of recurrence following surgery across 16 common cancer types**

*Objective is to identify and compare guidelines making recommendations for surveillance to detect recurrence in 16 common solid cancers after initial curative treatment in asymptomatic patients.*

Hannah Harrison et al

BMJ Oncology 2025 4 e000627

**General**

**UK's National Cancer Plan needs to be radical, accountable, and deliverable**

Mark Lawler et al

Lancet Oncology 26 (3) 274-276

**Professional**

**Challenges and opportunities for cancer nurses in implementing digital health technologies**

*This article outlines some of the opportunities and challenges presented by the use of DHTs and explains how nurses can facilitate the uptake of DHTs in cancer services, working with patients to ensure that these technologies suit their needs and preferences.*

Sam Charlton et al



Cancer Nursing Practice March Challenges and opportunities

### Specific Cancers

#### **Cervical cancer elimination by 2040 – plan for England**

*NHS England previously outlined its ambition to eliminate cervical cancer by 2040, aligning with the World Health Organisation's (WHO) global initiative to achieve a below 4 per 100,000 cervical cancer incidence rate.*

*This new publication outlines how the NHS will improve equitable uptake and coverage across human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccination and cervical screening to take us towards the elimination ambition.*

To access the publication click on the hyperlink below or if you would like a PDF of the publication please let us know.

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/long-read/cervical-cancer-elimination-by-2040-plan-for-england/>

#### **Advances in the management of endometrial cancer**

*Endometrial cancer is now the most lethal gynecologic malignancy, with incidence rates rising globally. Treatment strategies have historically been focused on a combination of surgery, radiation, and/or chemotherapy based primarily on histology and extent of tumor. Advances in the evaluation and treatment of endometrial cancers are occurring at a rapid pace, with a new focus on genomic profiling and targeted therapies.*

Bradley R Corr et al

BMJ 388 e080978

#### **Incidence of prostate cancer in men with testosterone deficiency and a family history of prostate cancer receiving testosterone therapy: a comparative study**

To investigate the incidence of any PCa diagnosis in men with testosterone deficiency (TD) who have a family history of PCa and were prescribed TTh compared with a control cohort of men with TD with a family history of PCa but who were not prescribed TTh, over a period of 10 years.

Edoardo Pozzi et al

BMJ Oncology 2025 4 e000520

#### **Impact of resection margin width on local recurrence following breast-conserving surgery and whole breast radiotherapy for pure ductal carcinoma in situ: a systematic review and meta-analysis**

*The aim of this study was to determine the impact of margin width and boost radiotherapy on the local recurrence risk of pure ductal carcinoma in situ (DCIS).*



Ahmed Ezzat et al  
BMJ Oncology 2025 4 e000633

### Survivorship

#### **Long-term outcomes of bilateral salpingo-oophorectomy in women with personal history of breast cancer**

*To investigate the association between bilateral salpingo-oophorectomy (BSO) and long-term health outcomes in women with a personal history of breast cancer*

Hend Hassan et al  
BMJ Oncology 2025 4 e000574