



# Oncology bulletin

## March 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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### Diagnosis

#### **Circulating-tumour DNA (ctDNA) in NSCLC: mechanisms, evidence and the future of MRD detection**

*Abstract - Circulating tumour DNA (ctDNA) offers a minimally invasive approach for early detection of cancer, monitoring molecular residual disease, assessing molecular response and identifying treatment resistance in advanced stages. Additionally, ctDNA enhances clinical decision-making by enabling real-time tumour assessment. This review highlights the growing role of liquid biopsy as a predictive and prognostic tool in non-small cell lung cancer management.*

Beatriz Jimenez-Munarriz et al  
BMJ Oncology 5 e001002 (open access)  
10.1136/bmjonc-2025-001002

#### **Artificial intelligence (AI) technologies for assessing and triaging skin lesions referred to the urgent suspected skin cancer pathway: early value assessment**

NICE Guidance HTG 746

Original research

#### **Overexpression of salivary Zinc Finger Protein 510 (ZFP510) as a novel diagnostic biomarker in oral squamous cell carcinoma: a case-control study**

*Introduction - Oral squamous cell carcinoma (OSCC) is associated with substantial morbidity and mortality worldwide, and its prognosis is heavily dependent on early detection. Saliva represents a valuable diagnostic medium for oral cancer detection due to its direct contact with lesions, non-invasive collection and ability to*



*reflect local and systemic molecular alterations. Zinc Finger Protein 510 (ZFP510), implicated in tumorigenic pathways in other malignancies, has not been extensively studied in salivary diagnostics.*

Meera Theenathayalan et al

BMJ Connections Oncology 3 e000074 (open access)

10.1136/bmjconc-2025-000074

**Specific Cancers**

**Durvalumab with gemcitabine and cisplatin for neoadjuvant treatment then alone for adjuvant treatment of muscle-invasive bladder cancer**

NICE Guidance TA 1138

**Epcoritamab for treating relapsed or refractory follicular lymphoma after 2 or more lines of systemic treatment**

NICE Guidance TA 1139

**Kidney cancer**

NICE Quality Standard QS 215

**Kidney cancer: diagnosis and management**

NICE Guidance NG 256

Research

**Pyrotinib or placebo in combination with trastuzumab and docetaxel for HER2 positive metastatic breast cancer: long term survival results from randomised phase 3 PHILA trial**

*Objective - To report updated results of the phase 3 PHILA trial, which evaluated the efficacy and safety of pyrotinib or placebo in combination with trastuzumab and docetaxel in patients with untreated human epidermal growth factor receptor 2 (HER2) positive metastatic breast cancer.*

Fei Ma et al

BMJ 392 (8484) e087259 (open access)

10.1136/bmj-2025-087259

Research

**Camrelizumab plus CAPOX with camrelizumab based maintenance versus CAPOX alone as initial treatment for gastric or gastro-oesophageal junction adenocarcinoma: randomised phase 3 trial**

*Objective - To compare camrelizumab plus capecitabine and oxaliplatin followed by camrelizumab plus apatinib (camre+CAPOX followed by camre+apa), CAPOX*



*alone, and camrelizumab plus CAPOX followed by camrelizumab (camre+CAPOX followed by camre) as initial treatment for gastric or gastro-oesophageal junction adenocarcinoma.*

Zhi Peng et al

BMJ 392 (8484) e086115 (open access)

10.1136/bmj-2025-086115

Editorial

**Surgery as local consolidation therapy before progression in oncogene-driven stage IV NSCLC: a patient and advocacy perspective**

*The authors of this editorial are patients, advocates and founders of communities representing people living with oncogene-driven non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC). From the patient-advocacy perspective, we wish to stimulate debate and facilitate discussion among UK thoracic oncologists, surgeons and policymakers regarding the potential role of surgical local consolidation therapy (LCT) before disease progression in selected patients with stage*

*IV oncogene-driven NSCLC*

Elena Klenova et al

BMJ Oncology 5 e000974 (open access)

10.1136/bmjonc-2025-000974