Colorectal cancer is the 4th most common registered cancer in England. The target for the percentage of colorectal cancer patients receiving their first treatment within 62 days from first referral by the General Practitioner is 85%. However, regular waiting time analyses have repeatedly shown that most Trusts in the Greater Manchester region have been failing this target. Furthermore, by 2020 the new faster diagnosis performance standard of confirmation of cancer diagnosis (or no cancer) by day 28 following first referral from GP (instead of the current day 31) will be implemented.

Scope / Workstreams

PHASE 1
Sept 18 - Aug 19

- Establish Programme Management Office
- Agree and initiate Governance & Contractual obligations for staff in pilot sites
- Go lives in 4 pilotsites

PHASE 2
Sept 19 - Aug 20

- Ongoing support of Programme Management Office
- Agree & Initiate: Governance & Contractual obligations for staff in pilot sites
- Go live in further sites (6 in total)

PHASE 3
Sept 20 - Aug 21

- Ongoing support of Programme Management Office
- Agree & Initiate: Governance & Contractual obligations for staff in pilot sites
- Go live on all 10 sites

Summary

Greater Manchester is currently failing the cancer waiting time standard for colorectal cancer with 78% of patients receiving their treatment within 62 days for Q3 2017/18 rather than the target 85%. This means by doing nothing we are failing our population.

In order to effect change we need to administer interventions. The combination of 7- day clinic appointment and STT will not only help to deliver a diagnosis in a more timely manner but also take pressure out of the system to ensure our patients receive treatment quicker, helping move us forward to fast tracking the staging and pathology and clinic for results with MDT by day 21.

References

1. Accelerate, Coordinate, Evaluate (ACE) Programme, Improving diagnostic pathways for patients with suspected colorectal cancer- June 2017