

Greater Manchester Cancer Skin Pathway

Dr John Lear - john.lear@srft.nhs.uk
 Consultant Dermatologist; Greater Manchester Cancer Skin Pathway Director

Rachel Allen - Rachel.allen12@nhs.net
 Pathway Manager Greater Manchester Cancer Skin Pathway Board

Introduction

The Skin Cancer Pathway Board has representation from all Greater Manchester and Eastern Cheshire Trusts and disciplines that treat skin cancer, including dermatologists, plastic surgeons, oncologists, pathologists, nurses and managers. It represents the complexity of skin cancer delivery across the conurbation with representatives of all the local and specialist MDTs.

Skin cancer prevalence

Skin referrals are the third highest in Greater Manchester and Eastern Cheshire after Breast and Lower GI accounting for 14% of all suspected cancer referrals in a five year period (2012-2017). Over 3 years, referrals have increased by 31% with diagnoses/treatments increasing by 20% (Figure 1).

2018/19 areas of focus

- 1 MDT Reform:** The Board will develop a series of recommendations for skin cancer MDTs, focusing on local MDT initially with plans to look at the SSMDT thereafter.
- 2 Supporting skin cancer referral pathways:** Suspected skin cancer referral rates are increasing year on year. The vast majority of GP-referred two week wait suspected skin cancer patients are found not to be cancerous highlighting that the current referral process is inefficient. The Board intend to trial a new referral process assisted by a digital platform that enables GPs to transmit normal photos and dermatoscopic photos to Dermatologists.
- 3 Implementation of Macmillan Recovery Package**
- 4 Research and innovation:** Work is underway to develop a melanoma database in collaboration with the Greater Manchester Cancer Data Intelligence Team.
- 5 Prevention of skin cancer:** The Board plans to review the evidence base for the causal links of skin cancer in collaboration with public health colleagues and look to develop a shared prevention work programme.

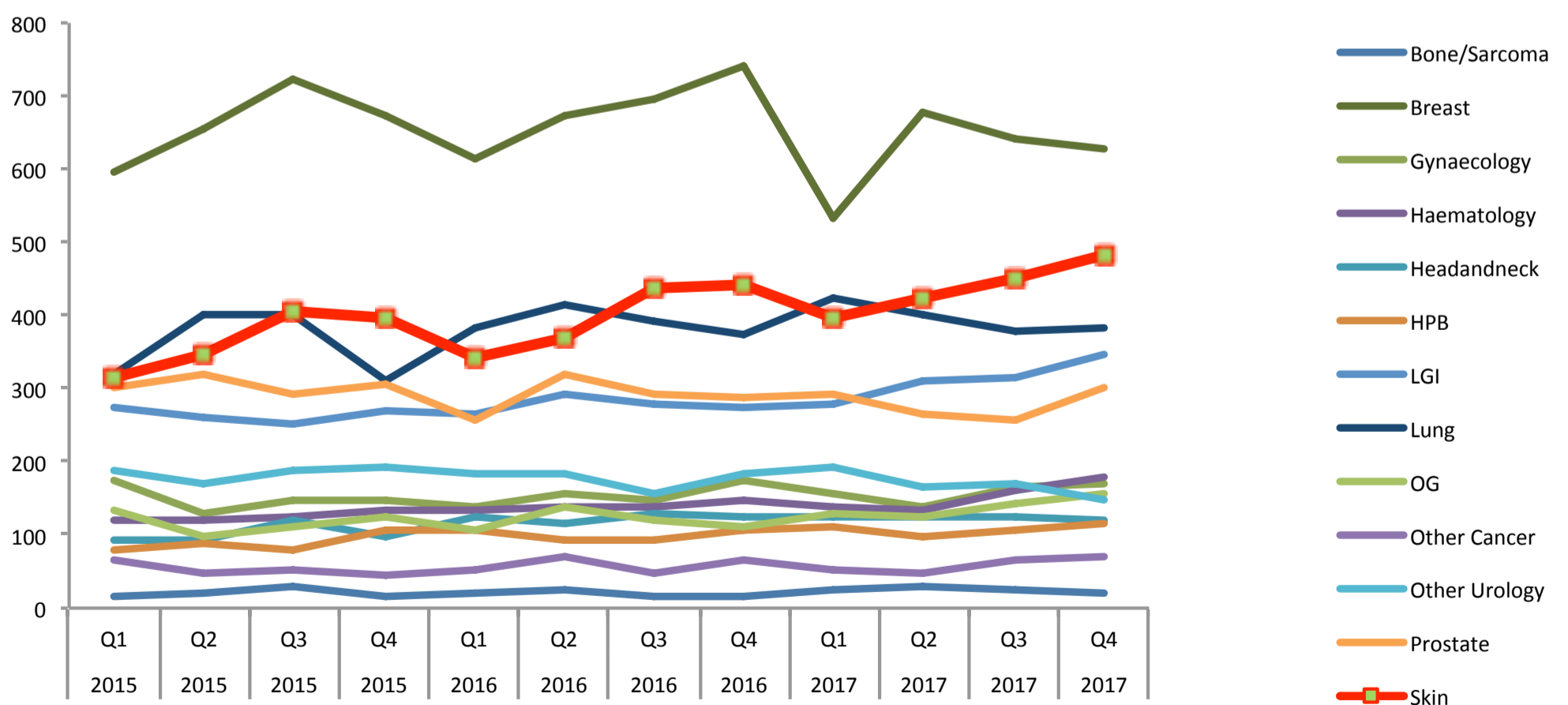


Figure 1. Number of cancer treatments 2015-2017 by quarter for all cancers in Greater Manchester and Eastern Cheshire. Data source: Open Exeter CWT.