



Development of Rapid Diagnostic Centres and the Non- Specific Symptoms Pathway in Greater Manchester

Programme Lead: Sue Sykes susansykes@nhs.net



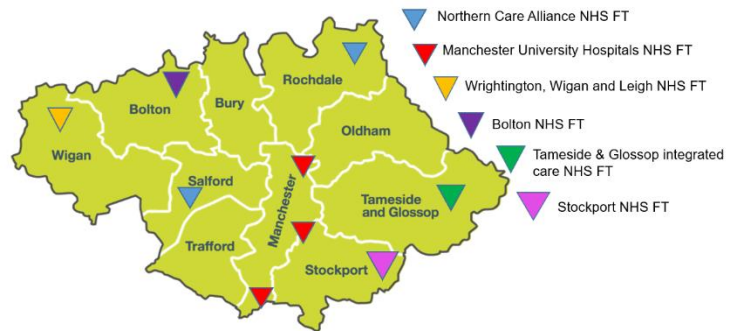
Policy Context

The RDC Programme in GM has now transitioned to a Faster Diagnosis Programme to align with the National Diagnosis Framework (February 2022). The GM Faster Diagnosis Programme Board will have oversight of the Faster Diagnosis Programme across GM, including the ongoing development of the NSS pathway and RDCs.

For patients with suspected cancer, the Faster Diagnosis Programme aims to deliver:

- An earlier and faster diagnosis to patients whether or not they are ultimately diagnosed with cancer
- Excellent patient experience, a holistic assessment of patient needs, and streamlined support across community, primary and secondary care.
- Increased capacity in the system, through more efficient diagnostic pathways.
- Support systems to reach the Faster Diagnosis Standard.

RDCs Across GM

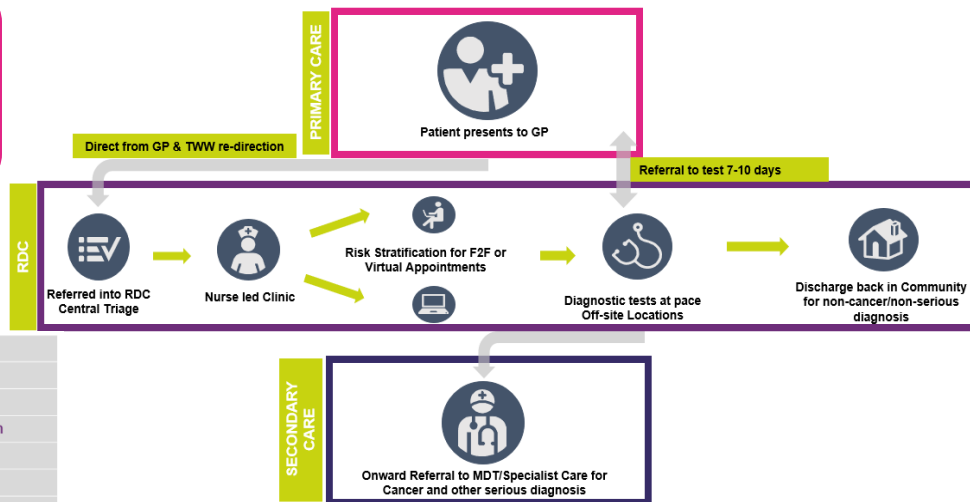


Aims

The overall aim of the programme will be to:

- Enable the front end of the diagnostic pathway to be as generic as possible.
- Exclude cancer as quickly as possible.
- Be in a position to offer those who do have cancer quicker and timelier care further on in the pathway that they are ultimately put on.

Model of Care



Non-Specific Symptoms Referral Criteria

Weight loss (>5% in three months)	Unexplained night sweats
Decreased appetite	Hepatomegaly
Nausea	Splenomegaly
Bloating	Continued patient/family concern
Abdo pain – non specific	GP concern
Persistent pain	Anaemia
Fatigue	Unprovoked DVT with signs suggesting underlying cancer
Inguinal Lymphadenopathy (Axillary – Refer to Breast, Cervical – Refer to Head & Neck)	Abnormal imaging suggestive of metastatic disease

Non-Specific Symptoms Activity June 2020 – July 2022

Total Number of referrals to date:	5082
Total Number of referrals in July 2022:	447
Time from receipt of referral to patient first seen (face to face /virtual):	Average 6 days
Time from receipt of referral to first diagnostic:	Average 6 days
Time from receipt of referral to Faster Diagnosis clock stop (Yes/ No to cancer):	Average 19 days
Cancer conversion rate ranges from:	Range from 3.6% - 6.5%.
Most common cancers diagnosed: lung	Lung, pancreas, lymphoma, colorectal

Patient Feedback

I cannot stress how really helpful the RDC were. They alleviated every fear I had and everything was treated with sensitivity and professionalism. I cannot thank the RDC enough

Very happy was phoned previous night and offered appointment went next day for scan results back for teatime brilliant services 100 per cent 😊😊

Could not have asked for better support and care, from my appointment with my GP to the completion of my investigative treatment the RDC have been brilliant, which was carried out very quickly to a high standard. Thank You.