

Early Diagnosis Pilot Projects

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Greater Manchester (GM) Cancer Alliance participates in several pilot projects developed by the NHS Cancer Programme. The Colon Capsule Endoscopy and Capsule Sponge pilots were initiated in response to the increasing demand on secondary care because of the COVID-19 pandemic, causing increased waiting times for patients. Both pilots ended on 31/03/2024.

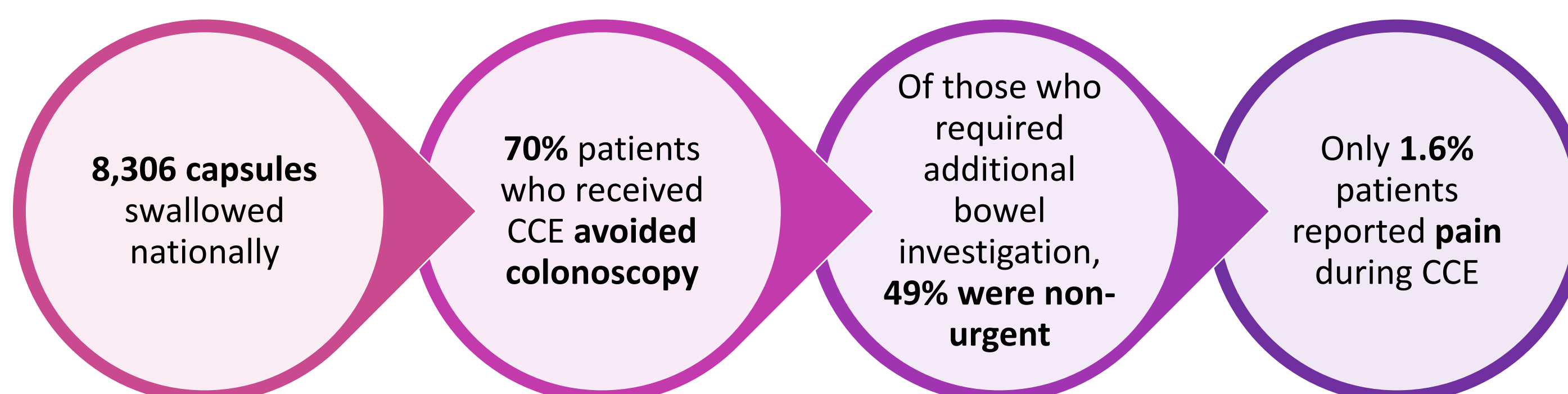
Colon Capsule Endoscopy (CCE)

A non-invasive alternative to colonoscopy. The capsule takes images of the bowel. Patients wear a data recorder which produces a video for clinicians to review.

Pilot sites: Royal Oldham and Salford Royal.

Aim: to evaluate the diagnostic accuracy of CCE in patients at risk of colorectal cancer or undergoing post-polypectomy bowel surveillance.

Evaluation: The full evaluation is expected to be published in September 2024.



Capsule Sponge

A non-endoscopic diagnostic tool. A tethered sponge in a capsule that is swallowed and when pulled up, collects oesophageal cells for analysis.

Pilot sites: Leigh Infirmary, Royal Oldham, Salford Royal

Aim: to use capsule sponge as a triaging tool for patients with low-risk reflux symptoms on a routine referral pathway, to release capacity in endoscopy services.

