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Audit of the Gynaecological Cancer Pathway Breaches in Ysbyty Gwynedd

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The aim of this audit is to examine how well Ysbyty Gwynedd are keeping to national standards with regards to the urgent suspected cancer pathway for gynaecological cancer.

Up until 2021, the Urgent Suspected Cancer (USC) pathway was used for GP referrals and the Non-Urgent Suspected Cancer (NUSC) pathway for alternative routes. There were reported issues with these pathways so a new streamlined pathway was made called the single cancer pathway (SCP).

Data for the audit was collected at Ysbyty Gwynedd. I assessed all patients diagnosed with a gynaecological cancer (ovarian, uterine, cervical or vulval) between June and December 2020. I used Patient Information Management System (PIMS) and Patient Information System (PAS).

41 patients were diagnosed with a gynaecological cancer in Ysbyty Gwynedd between the first of June and 31st of December 2020. All these patients were referred via the urgent suspected cancer (USC) pathway. 38 patients did not breach the USC pathway of 62 days with 20 patients being <31 days and 18 patients being <62 days. Three people did however breach the USC pathway. This means that 7.3% of patients breached the USC pathway. If using the new pathway, 14.6% of patients would have breached.

The new single cancer pathway is more effective at spotting breaches in quality of care and effective diagnosis. By using this new pathway, it will mean that much more can be done to improve the speed of treatment and therefore improving their short-term and long-term outcomes.

Recent publications

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Biography

Georgia Mills is an FY1 in Wrexham Maelor Hospital in Wales. She studied at Cardiff University completing an undergraduate medicine degree in summer 2022. She completed this audit during a reproductive medicine placement as a student.