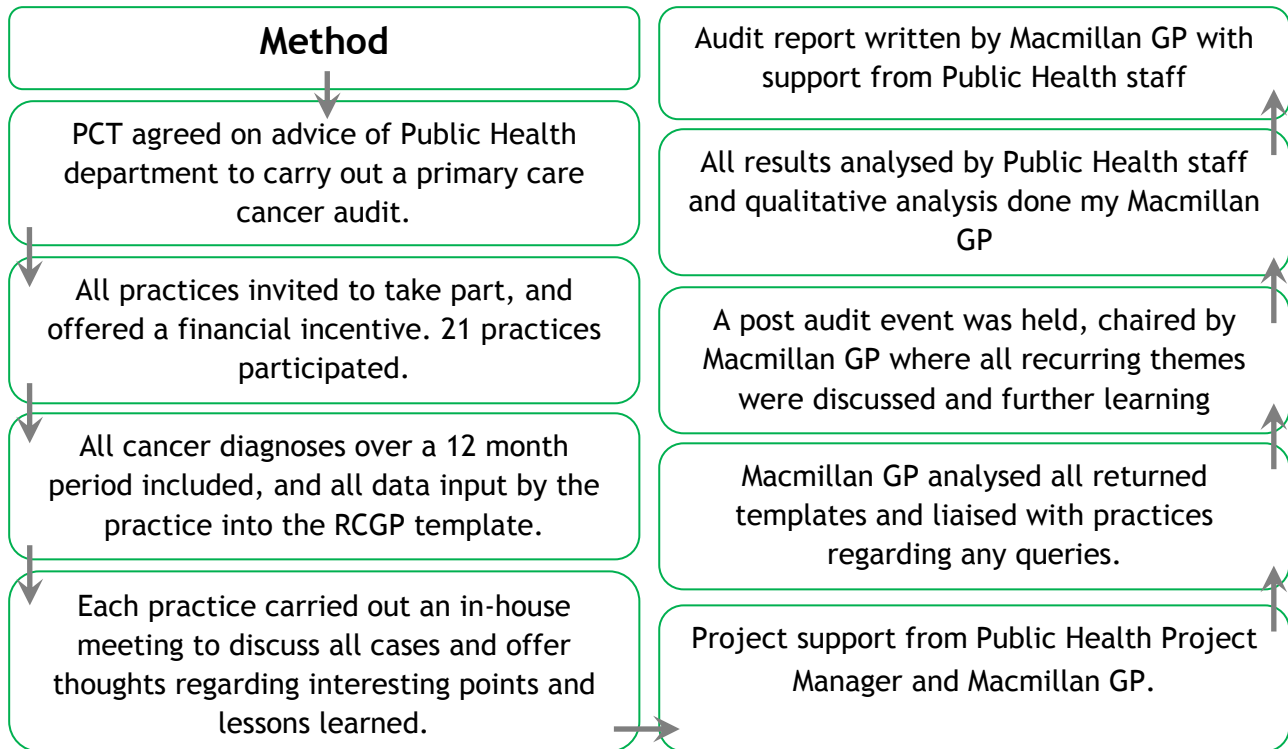


WE WORK TOGETHER

Primary care routes to diagnosis audit

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Key themes:

Patients would often cancel or delay appointments → possibly due to poor explanation by GP or the patient's own anxiety/fear

Difficulties posed by co-morbidities, psychiatric diagnoses, and false positive results → other recurring reasons for delays offered by GPs

Urgent referrals were not safety netted robustly, leading to delays → GPs generally agreed strongly regarding this

Lack of continuity of care led to delays → patients seeing multiple GPs meant things were getting missed

The two week referral route not always being used appropriately → the importance of this agreed by GPs

Poor communication between primary and secondary care → a recurring issue

Key recommendations

>> Provide education opportunities for GPs to increase awareness of early signs and symptoms of cancer.

>> Improve safety netting procedures in practices to make sure all people referred using the two week rule are seen.

>> All practices should be using the two week rule Patient Information Leaflets (PILs) - ensure these are made available.

>> All GPs to be aware of all direct access investigations available and the appropriate referral processes.

>> All GPs to be aware of the NCIN practice profiles for cancer - and for practices to allocate time to look at their own profile.

>> Each practice to continue to engage in primary care cancer audits.

>> Public Health Department to look at other ways to increase cancer awareness locally.

>> Work with secondary care on guidelines for urgent referral of some cancers.