

A briefing to enable Macmillan GPs to run an event in their locality

Background

In 2014 and 2015, Macmillan facilitated annual GP education events on Significant Event Analysis (SEA) in partnership with the Royal College of General Practitioners (RCGP) to encourage GPs to carry out a cancer-related SEA as part of their annual appraisal. Following the success of these SEA events in association with RCGP, to which a total of more than **420 delegates attended**, Macmillan hosted two events in 2016 to reach more delegates across the country.

The Improving Cancer Outcomes using Significant Event Analysis (SEA) learning events facilitated by the Prevention and Diagnosis team and Dr Anthony Cunliffe in 2016 were attended by almost **100 GPs and healthcare professionals in London and 40 in Manchester**. A range of healthcare professionals shared and debated cancer SEAs, with the aspiration of inspiring collaborative partnerships and improving cancer care and outcomes. The event inspired a great deal of interesting conversations, providing a networking opportunity to discuss the importance of completing a high-quality SEA and working across the primary and secondary care interface to achieve earlier diagnosis of cancer.

Why run an SEA event?

Three months after the SEA event took place in 2015, a survey was sent out to all 120 event attendees to ascertain whether GPs had implemented the learning gained during the event. Just three months after the event, **80% of attendees had made changes to the way they approach cancer SEAs and 80% shared their learning with others**.

2016 event highlights

London event

- 81% felt fairly or very confident in their ability to carry out an SEA post-event
- 90% felt confident they could complete an SEA that would lead to quality improvements

Manchester event

- 94% felt fairly or very confident in their ability to carry out an SEA post-event
- All attendees felt confident they could complete an SEA that would lead to quality improvements

Completing a Cancer SEA supports recommendation 25 in the 2015–2020 Cancer Strategy:

'All GPs should be required to undertake a Significant Event Analysis for any patient diagnosed with cancer as a result of an emergency admission.'

In view of this recommendation, Macmillan recognises the importance of carrying out SEAs on new cancer diagnoses. We therefore want to strongly encourage our Macmillan GP community to utilise the learning from these events and the wealth of resources in the SEA toolkit, to carry out SEA education events locally within their area.

SEA EVENT CHECKLIST

The SEA toolkit, developed in partnership with NHS England and the RCGP, provides a range of training resources and guidance that could be used to run a local SEA event, or to incorporate an SEA session in to an existing education event.

SEA Template

The bespoke Cancer SEA template was first developed in 2012/2013 during the Cancer SEA Peer Review Pilot and has since become more detailed, reflecting the content required to complete an SEA to a good standard. The template is hosted in the [SEA toolkit](#) on the RCGP website.

Encourage GPs to adopt and utilise this template for their next cancer SEA. You could run through some fictional SEAs to demonstrate how the template should be completed, in order to carry out high quality and impactful reflection to bring about positive change.

Fictional SEAs: Examples

During your session, you may find it useful to refer to some fictional example SEAs of varying quality to demonstrate best practice. The aim of this workshop is to identify what makes a Cancer SEA high quality and reflective, in order to explore themes that can be addressed and shared to improve early diagnosis of cancer.

Each example has detailed notes showing good instances of reflection including where it is lacking, and guidance on what represents good and poor quality when it comes to carrying out an SEA. GPs could discuss these SEAs as a group, pull out the key themes or solutions and debate the quality of reflection. The notes page could be removed from each example, and used in the feedback session after the discussion.

Individuals could share their own experiences of themes and may find it helpful to discuss specific cancer cases with peers, so we recommend that you encourage GPs to submit any anonymised SEAs prior to the event.

These three examples are centred around colorectal and ovarian carcinoma; two cancers known to often present as an emergency:

- [SEA Patient A](#) – An example where reflection could have been deeper.
- [SEA Patient B](#) – An example describing a clear timeline of events, however it could demonstrate deeper reflection, more specific learning action points, and the impact on practice.
- [SEA Patient C](#) – An example which is thorough in its discussions and demonstrates insightful reflections, specific learning and action points.

Allow 15–20 minutes per case for reflection and debate. You may find it useful to refer to this [workshop brief](#) which identifies some themes for consideration and prompts for each of the example SEAs.

Real-life SEAs

During your event, it may be useful to give a brief presentation of a real-life SEA case that involved yourself and secondary care. You could share the challenges and successes to demonstrate the importance not only of good quality SEA but also of cross boundary working.

Macmillan's Primary Care Offers

This [presentation](#) outlines Macmillan's primary care offers from early diagnosis through to end of life care. You could choose to use some, or all, of these slides during your SEA education session; perhaps focus on the areas that are a priority for your CCG. This would be a great opportunity to highlight Macmillan's work and encourage event attendees to adopt the tools and resources developed by Macmillan.

Transitions of Care

This [presentation](#) highlights the challenges faced in the transition from primary to secondary care. It contains lots of infographics to highlight the changing story of cancer, survival times and other co-morbidities. Depending on time, you may want to focus on the slides looking at the challenges and need for increased communication between primary and secondary care.

Evaluation

All GPs in your session should complete an evaluation form. This will enable Macmillan to ascertain the impact and usefulness of running smaller, localised events. The following evaluation form includes questions on all the potential presentations and workshops that you may wish to run, but questions can be removed and added as appropriate. Please collate the feedback and share a summary of the results with Macmillan: preventionanddiagnosis@macmillan.org.uk.

Resources for you

To support you in running your own local SEA event we have developed a variety of useful templates that you can adapt to suit your plans. If you have existing templates for local education events please do use these or if you would be interested in using our templates contact preventionanddiagnosis@macmillan.org.uk.

We have also developed a dedicated webpage to support Primary Care Professionals as they connect with cancer patients: www.macmillan.org.uk/gp.

This webpage hosts a number of toolkits, guidance documents and online training modules ranging from early diagnosis through to after treatment, and at end-of-life. Supporting resources for people with cancer have also been developed to help effective signposting and to shape the future of primary care. We recommend that you share details of this webpage (www.macmillan.org.uk/gp) with your delegates either at the start or the end of the day to ensure that they leave the event with details of where to find further support and guidance from Macmillan.

SEA Evaluation form

Your feedback is important to us. Please complete this evaluation form with your views about today's learning event.

1. What was your level of understanding of how to complete a good quality Cancer Significant Event Analysis (SEA) on a new diagnosis?

	Not at all confident	Slightly confident	Somewhat confident	Fairly confident	Very confident
Understanding pre-event	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Understanding post-event	<input type="checkbox"/>				

Please comment on how this learning event has affected your attitudes and thoughts towards Cancer SEAs:

2. How useful did you find the presentation of real-life SEA cases that have involved primary and secondary care?

	Not at all	Slightly	Somewhat	Mostly	Completely
How useful did you find it overall?	<input type="checkbox"/>				
As a result, will you consider involving secondary care when completing future SEAs?	<input type="checkbox"/>				

Comments:

3. Regarding the session that looked at fictional SEA cases:

	Not at all	Slightly	Somewhat	Mostly	Completely
How useful did you find it overall?	<input type="checkbox"/>				
As a result, will you change your approach to SEA in your practice?	<input type="checkbox"/>				

Comments:

4. Regarding the presentation on living with and beyond cancer, with a focus on transitions of care:

	Not at all	Slightly	Somewhat	Mostly	Completely
How useful did you find it overall?	<input type="checkbox"/>				
As a result, will you change your approach to SEA in your practice?	<input type="checkbox"/>				

Comments:

5. How confident do you feel to write up a Cancer SEA that would lead to quality improvements to your practice and patients?

Not at all	Slightly	Somewhat	Mostly	Completely
<input type="checkbox"/>				

Any additional comments:

6. How could the day have been improved?
