Background

The number of people living with cancer in the UK has risen dramatically and is predicted to rise further. In this context, and with budgets tightening, we need an improved understanding of post-diagnosis pathways for cancer patients to better plan support and services.

Despite devolved health and social care functions across the UK, there is also demand from devolved nations, the UK and international organisations for UK-wide and nation comparative data. Through analytical partnerships across the UK we aim to increase the focus on the post-diagnosis phases of the Cancer Pathway.

Methods

Building on a previous investment, Macmillan Cancer Support is now working to develop the survivorship evidence base in partnership with cancer intelligence functions across the UK.

Figure 1: Macmillan analytical partnerships across the UK

We have agreed a set of broad objectives for our nation-specific work programme to facilitate alignment across the UK. Key common objectives include:

- To identify and access new data sources and improve the use of existing datasets relevant to cancer patients in each nation.
- To identify gaps in availability of cancer-specific and cancer-relevant data in each nation, particularly in other UK nations.
- To understand the potential to link and analyse data on clinical outcomes and patient experience across primary, secondary, community, and social care.
- To understand the needs and outcomes of the cancer population in each nation, the health and social impacts of cancer (including cancer recurrence and metastasis), and the consequences of treatment across the cancer journey.
- To assess the feasibility of adapting Macmillan’s Routes from Diagnosis’ approach in each nation, or developing a similar but tailored set of analysis to map the patient pathway.
- To align with Macmillan’s regional and UK strategies, and with the National Strategies or Cancer Plans outlined by the devolved health functions in each nation.

There are a number of datasets that we aim to explore or test for their feasibility of use to inform the survivorship evidence base as outlined in Table 1. All datasets would only be available within the secure environments of the cancer registries with the correct safeguards and permissions in place.

Table 1: Example datasets for exploration within analytical partnerships

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Wales Current:</th>
<th>Scotland Current:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Patient Episode Database for Wales</td>
<td>Outpatients (Appointments &amp; Attendances) (SMR01)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Followthrough:</td>
<td>Costs Book/PLICs (Patient Level Information Costs)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Digital imaging</td>
<td>Scottish Primary Care Information Resource SPRI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GP Prescribing dataset</td>
<td>Health and Social Care Data Integration and Intelligence Project (HSCDIP)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Figure 2: Example outputs to date within analytical partnerships

Some examples of initial outputs are given in Figure 2. Macmillan’s analytical partnerships will also work across nations, facilitating innovative analysis to explore the needs of people living with cancer are numerous.

References

3. Macmillan sponsored Framework for Cancer in Primary Care is an ambitious five-year programme which aims to support GP to diagnose cancer early and better integrate cancer care between primary, community and secondary care services. The project led by Macmillan-NCRAS collaborated with Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

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Digital version of this poster available from macmillan.org.uk/analyticalpartnerships