

## GLOSSARY OF TERMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

<b>Acute</b>	Description of any intense sensation such as pain or the description of a disease with rapid onset, severe symptoms and short duration.
<b>Acute Hospital</b>	Provides surgery, investigations, operations, serious and other treatments in a hospital setting.
<b>Adjuvant Therapy</b>	Therapy (usually chemotherapy) given after all visible tumour has been removed, usually by surgery or radiotherapy. Used to improve cure rates and reduce recurrence.
<b>AP</b>	Action Plan
<b>ARSAC</b>	Administration of Radioactive Substances Advisory Committee (license use of radioactive materials).
<b>BASO</b>	British Association of Surgical Oncologists (includes breast surgeons)
<b>Benign</b>	Tumour that is not malignant. Also used of a condition or disorder that does not produce harmful effects.
<b>Biopsy</b>	Removal of small sample of tissue to aid diagnosis. Biopsied tissue is usually prepared for microscopic examination.
<b>Brachytherapy</b>	Treatment which involves placing a source of radiation directly within the tumour and employs radioactive plaques, needles, tubes, wires, or small "seeds" made of radionuclides. These radioactive materials are placed over the surface of the tumour or implanted within the tumour, or placed within a body cavity surrounded by the tumour.
<b>Breast cancer</b>	Cancer of the breast tissue, the commonest malignant disease in women.
<b>Bronchial cancer</b>	Cancer of the lung. Cigarette smoking is responsible for most cases of bronchial carcinoma.
<b>Cancer</b>	Abnormal and unregulated proliferation of cells that result in invasion and destruction of surrounding healthy tissue. Cancer cells arise from normal cells whose nature has been permanently changed. Cancer cells are spread by blood and lymphatics to other parts of the body to form metastases.
<b>Cancer Registries</b>	Collect information on what cancers occur, how advanced they are and where they are diagnosed The availability of information may be variable at different cancer registries, depending on local practices and the completeness of the reporting of staging information by clinicians.
<b>Carcinoma</b>	Any cancer that arises from epithelial tissue.
<b>Care pathway</b>	A description of the journey taken (or intended to be taken) through a clinical service.
<b>CEs</b>	Chief Executive(s) also CEO (CE Officer)
<b>Chemotherapy</b>	Treatment of a disease by drugs.

<b>Chronic</b>	Describing a disease of long duration, usually with slow progression.
<b>Clinical audit</b>	The continuous evaluation and measurement by health professionals of the extent to which they are meeting standards that have been set for their service.
<b>Clinical Governance</b>	Process by which an organisation ensures its clinical care is of high quality and is both safe and effective.
<b>Clinical network</b>	A group of services which work together across organisational boundaries to provide better patient care.
<b>Colorectal Cancer</b>	Cancer of the colon and/or rectum
<b>CNS</b>	Clinical Nurse Specialist – a nurse with specialist training and experience in a particular area of cancer.
<b>CPA</b>	Clinical Pathology Accreditation run by Royal College of Pathologists
<b>CSC'IP"</b>	Cancer Services Collaborative Improvement Partnership. Working with networks and local clinical teams to improve services by redesign.
<b>CT Scanner</b>	Computerised tomography scanner which uses x-rays to generate detailed cross sections of internal body structures.
<b>Cytotoxic Drug</b>	Drugs that destroy cells ( <i>cyto = cell, tox = kills</i> ) and used to treat cancer. Also affect normal rapidly dividing cells such as hair follicles and lining of gut.
<b>Data set</b>	A standard set of data items, concepts and definitions to enable the production of national and nationally comparable information. Minimum dataset is the minimum nationally acceptable configuration of these components.
<b>Emergency</b>	Sudden unforeseen thing or event needing prompt action.
<b>EUS</b>	Endoscopic Ultrasonography, a non surgical medical evaluation that has proven effective for assessing gastrointestinal disorders.
<b>Gynaecological Cancer</b>	Cancer relating to the ovaries, cervix, vulva, endometrium and associated structures.
<b>HDU</b>	High Dependency Unit, usually for very sick patients. It forms an intermediate stage between an intensive care unit and a ward.
<b>Healthcare Commission (HC)</b>	National body authorised by parliament to regulate healthcare in both public and private sectors. The NHS Cancer Peer Review Programme works in partnership with the HC.
<b>Hospice</b>	Institution specialising in care of patients with advanced cancer.
<b>IOG</b>	Improving Outcome Guidance – guidance drawn from an evidence base to indicate how services should be organised to improve clinical outcomes.
<b>Immuno-compromised</b>	Condition where the immune system is inhibited, either due to disease or the administration of immuno-suppressive drugs. Some drugs, e.g. most chemotherapeutic agents, have immuno-suppression as a side effect.
<b>ICU</b>	Intensive Care Unit
<b>Intrathecal Chemotherapy</b>	Chemotherapy administered via spinal injection. Subject to enhanced clinical governance arrangements due to historical

	problems.
<b>LINAC</b>	Linear accelerator – major capital equipment used to generate radiation used in external beam radiotherapy.
<b>LIT</b>	Local Implementation Team
<b>Locality</b>	Sub unit of organisation of a cancer network. Usually consists of an NHS (Hospital) Trust and the Primary Care Trusts within that Trusts patient catchment area, although other arrangements are possible.
<b>LUCADA</b>	National Lung Cancer Data Audit Project.
<b>Lymphoedema</b>	Swelling due to abnormal accumulation of lymph where lymph vessels are blocked, damaged or removed.
<b>Malignant</b>	Tumour that is invasive and destroys the tissue in which it originates. A tumour that will metastasise. In more general terms, tending to cause death, disposed to do harm.
<b>Mammography</b>	X-ray procedure for examining the breast. Used diagnostically and as a screening procedure to detect breast cancer.
<b>MDT</b>	Multi-disciplinary Team
<b>MDTM</b>	Multi-disciplinary Team Meeting
<b>Morbidity rates</b>	Information relating to disease, expressed as a rate (for example number of cases per 1M population).
<b>Mortality rates</b>	The number of deaths in a given period and for a given size of population.
<b>MRI Scanner</b>	Magnetic Resonance Imaging Scanner – also known as MR scanner. An imaging technique with particular value in certain clinical presentations.
<b>NCEPOD</b>	National Confidential Enquiry into Peri Operative Death – A long running national audit of surgical practice and organisation designed to reduce preventable mortality.
<b>NCRN</b>	National Cancer Research Network
<b>Neutropenia</b>	Decrease in the number of neutrophils (a white blood cell). This occurs following chemotherapy.
<b>NICE</b>	National Institute for Clinical Excellence
<b>NMC</b>	Nursing and Midwifery Council (Regulatory body for registered nurses and midwives)
<b>NPG</b>	National Priorities Guidance
<b>NPfIT</b>	National Programme for Information Technology – NHS programme to improve information and communications technology to assist clinical care.
<b>NSSG</b>	Network Site Specific Group. A sub group of a cancer network which co-ordinates the care delivered across the network for a given tumour site (e.g. breast).
<b>Oncology</b>	Study and practice of treating cancer. Can be divided into medical, surgical and radiation oncology.
<b>OG</b>	Oesophago-gastric
<b>PACS</b>	Picture Archiving and Communications System – Computer system used to store and share digital radiographic images across

	a local or wide area network.
<b>PALS</b>	Patient Advice and Liaison Service
<b>Palliative</b>	Medication, treatment or care that gives temporary relief of symptoms but does not cure disease.
<b>PAMs</b>	Professions Allied to Medicine e.g. radiographers, physiotherapists
<b>PCT</b>	Primary Care Trust –Group of GPs, nurses and other health professionals working together to: Improve health. Develop and provide primary and community services. Commission secondary care services.
<b>PET Scanner</b>	Positron Emission Tomography – a relatively new scanning technique that is particularly useful in certain clinical presentations.
<b>PFI</b>	Private Finance Initiative – a method for procuring new services, building or equipment that involves the private sector providing the required capital and the leasing the facility back to the NHS over a substantial period e.g. 25 years.
<b>PPI</b>	Patient and Public Involvement
<b>Radiation</b>	Energy in the form of waves or particles, such as gamma rays, X-rays, UV rays, infra red rays or visible light. Radiation can be ionizing or non-ionizing.
<b>Radiotherapy</b>	Treatment of disease using radiation to inhibit the disease process, especially the destruction of tumours. Radiation may come from an external beam focused on the tumour or small quantities of radioactive material may be inserted directly into the tumour.
<b>RCR</b>	Royal College of Radiologists
<b>SIF</b>	Service Improvement Facilitator
<b>SIL</b>	Service Improvement Lead, part of the core membership of a cancer network.
<b>SHAs</b>	Strategic Health Authority(ies)
<b>SHO</b>	Senior House Officer
<b>SpR</b>	Specialist Registrar
<b>TRUS</b>	Trans Rectal Ultrasound – an imaging technique of value in urology.
<b>Tumour</b>	Abnormal swelling or lump. A tumour may be malignant (when it is cancer) or benign.
<b>Upper GI</b>	Upper Gastro-Intestinal
<b>Workforce Development Confederation</b>	Local bodies charged with the following responsibilities. Increasing workforce numbers (particularly consultants and GPs) to meet NHS Plan workforce and service delivery targets. Implementing national policies and local activity to make the NHS a model employer. Modernising processes and roles and the development of skill mix to increase productivity and capacity.

	Modernising learning and personal development.
<b>WTE</b>	Whole Time Equivalent