

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER GP'S



**CANCER
SMART**

Severe Mental Illness
Access and Rapid
Treatment

31 January 2026

What is Cancer SMART?

A pathway-integrated service that supports people with Severe Mental Illness (SMI) to complete cancer diagnostics and treatment through rapid engagement, reasonable adjustments, and coordinated care. Cancer SMART's accepts referrals for patients with a SMI which includes Schizophrenia, Bipolar Affective Disorder, Schizoaffective Disorder and non-organic psychosis.

183 referrals received by Cancer SMART since go live 1st Sept 2025

120 via data flag

41 via St Georges clinical teams

20 via St Georges MDT teams

2 via GP's

Cancer SMART typically has 25 patients on their active case load.

So far 16 patients in total have been declined, due to no SMI or wrong pathway.

146 patients have been discharged, many post sharing of key MH information with clinical teams, including relapse indicators and reasonable adjustments to consider.

Highest number of referrals received are to **Lower GI**. Together with **Breast**, **Gynae** and **Upper GI**, these account for 60% of all referrals.



Please support our education and training strategy by completing this short staff survey

Cancer SMART referral recap

INCLUSION CRITERIA

- Have severe mental illness (SMI)
- Are on a cancer diagnosis pathway
- Face challenges engaging with healthcare due to mental health symptoms
- Concerns around capacity to consent to investigations or treatment
- Age 18+

Email referral and include: if patient has consented to referral, SMI diagnosis, known barriers to engagement

Clinical case review

64 year old male referred with ongoing abdominal pain, reflux, vomits and continued weight loss, 6 kg in the past year since previous referral which resulted in discharge due to non engagement. GP's referral included patient appeared cachectic with enlarged liver. Patient does not have a mobile phone. Cancer SMART contacted GP for update on current mental state as discharged from community mental health in 2021. GP described as stable, however this intervention highlighted the patient requested discharge from GP (and records to be deleted) the day after the 2WW referral. Patient has not received Zuclopenthixol for Paranoid Schizophrenia since 2021. GP made re referral to community mental health services. Patient currently not engaging with cancer pathway and under MH team for mental health assessment.

Contact/To Refer - cancerSMART@stgeorges.nhs.uk