

Cancer SMART Service Launching 1st September 2025

We're pleased to announce the launch of **Cancer SMART (Severe Mental Illness Access and Rapid Treatment)** at St George's Hospital from 1st September 2025.

This 18-month pilot, funded by RM Partners, is designed to reduce health inequalities for patients with Severe Mental Illness (SMI) who are undergoing cancer investigations or treatment. The service supports patients with established diagnoses such as Psychosis, Schizoaffective Disorder, or Bipolar Affective Disorder, particularly those facing engagement barriers like missed appointments, treatment non-concordance, or limited support networks. The team includes a service lead (Registered Mental Health Nurse), a peer support worker, Clinical Psychologist and a Psychiatrist, with links to the CNSs, MDTs and Community Mental Health Teams.

This service has been co-produced with individuals who have lived experience of both SMI and cancer, and works in close partnership with SWLSTG, primary care, and community organisations like EMHIP and Your Sim. Together, we aim to bridge the gap between acute and mental health services.

What Primary Care Teams Need to Know

- If your patient has been referred to SGH for cancer investigations and has a SMI diagnosis, please contact us at CancerSMART@stgeorges.nhs.uk
- If you are aware of a patient already under the care of SGH for cancer diagnostics or treatment who is not currently receiving support from Cancer SMART, but may benefit from it, you are encouraged to refer them directly via CancerSMART@stgeorges.nhs.uk.

Referrals Welcome From:

- Cancer teams at SGH (Doctors, CNS, Surgeons)
- Primary Care Workforce
- Mental health professionals

✉ Contact us at: CancerSMART@stgeorges.nhs.uk

Please note: Cancer SMART is not an emergency service. We aim to respond to referrals within 48 hours and provide guidance and support to cancer teams.