

Welcome to the first cancer newsletter which will provide regular progress updates. Thank you to everyone who has contributed the project to date and for those of you not yet involved, we look forward to working with you.

About the project

This project is a chance to create a lasting legacy for our patients and for the NHS through the sequencing of 100,000 genomes of patients including those with cancer. The main goal of the project is to transform the application of genomics to healthcare in the NHS.

The project also aims to increase understanding of tumour variants that predict therapeutic response to targeted cancer drugs and make new discoveries that will help to understand the genetic basis of cancer. For further information about the project in general please click [here](#).

The South West NHS GMC is recruiting patients from 7 hospitals in Exeter, Plymouth, Truro, Taunton, Yeovil, Taunton and Barnstaple.

Cancers currently included

Bladder - Urothelial cancer

Brain - Gliomas of all cell types. Rarer tumour types including embryonal tumours, pineal tumours, germ cell tumours and neuronal tumours

Breast – All invasive subtypes

Colorectal - Adenocarcinoma

Endometrial - All epithelial tumours, endometrial stromal sarcomas

Lung - Non small cell Lung Carcinoma including adenocarcinoma, squamous-cell carcinoma, large-cell carcinoma and other subtypes, small cell lung cancer, mesothelioma

Melanoma - Primary melanoma, stage III lymph node or intransit metastasis, metastatic tumour tissue from all melanoma subtypes, primary CNS melanoma

Ovarian – Adenocarcinoma, stromal tumours, germ cell tumours, small cell carcinoma

Prostate - Adenocarcinoma

Renal - Clear cell, papillary (Types 1 and 2), chromophobe, oncocytic, collecting duct and other subtypes

Sarcoma – Myxofibrosarcoma, leiomyosarcoma, synovial sarcoma, myxoid liposarcoma, rare sarcoma entities

Testicular - All germ cell tumours, sex cord-stromal tumour

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General eligibility criteria

- Patients must have a tumour of at least 20mm in diameter

Patients can **even** be recruited if they:

- have received neoadjuvant therapy
- have undergone chemotherapy, hormone therapy and/or radiotherapy for their cancer but have failed to respond to treatment and have progressed
- have presented with a recurrence (local or metastatic) of a previously treated tumour. Metastases from any tumour are eligible

Notes

- The tumour must not have been morcellated
- Please send the usual request form with the specimen as per standard clinical practice.

For a copy of the specific eligibility criteria for a particular cancer please contact the project office:

Phone: 01392 408177

Email: rde-tr.SWGMC@nhs.net

The South West Genomic Medicine Centre:

Key contacts and information

Cancer Lead
Mr John McGrath

Project Manager:
Steve Johnson

Professional
Training Year
Student: James
Bearman

Tissue Bank
Officers
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Lidia Romanczuk

Clinical Director
Professor Sian
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Project Office: Level
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T: 01392 408177

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tr.SWGMC@nhs.net](mailto:rde-tr.SWGMC@nhs.net)

SWGMC website

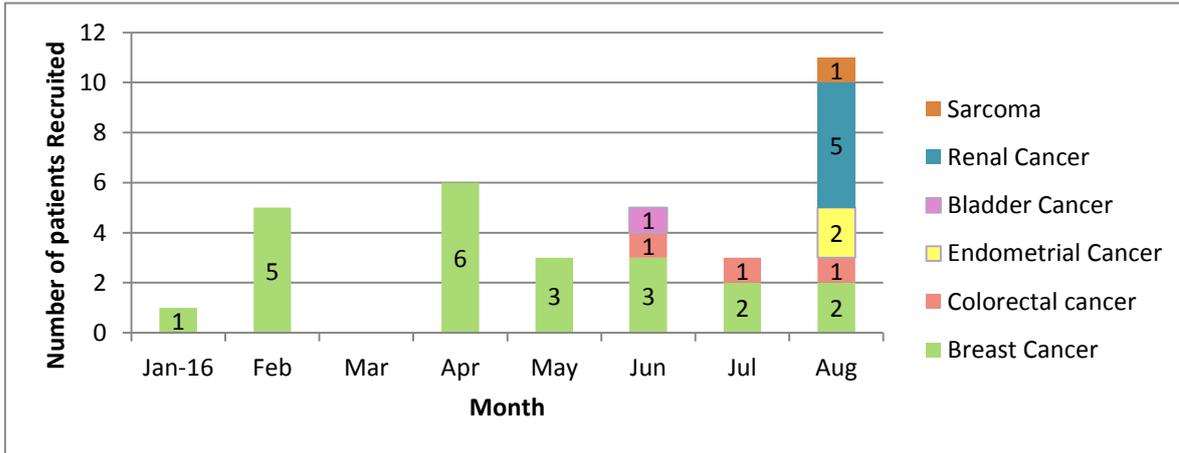
<http://swgmc.org/>

Twitter: @SW_GMC

The 100,000 Genomes
Project, Genomics
England [http://www.g
enomicsengland.co.uk/
the-100000-genomes-
project/](http://www.genomicsengland.co.uk/the-100000-genomes-project/)

Local progress update

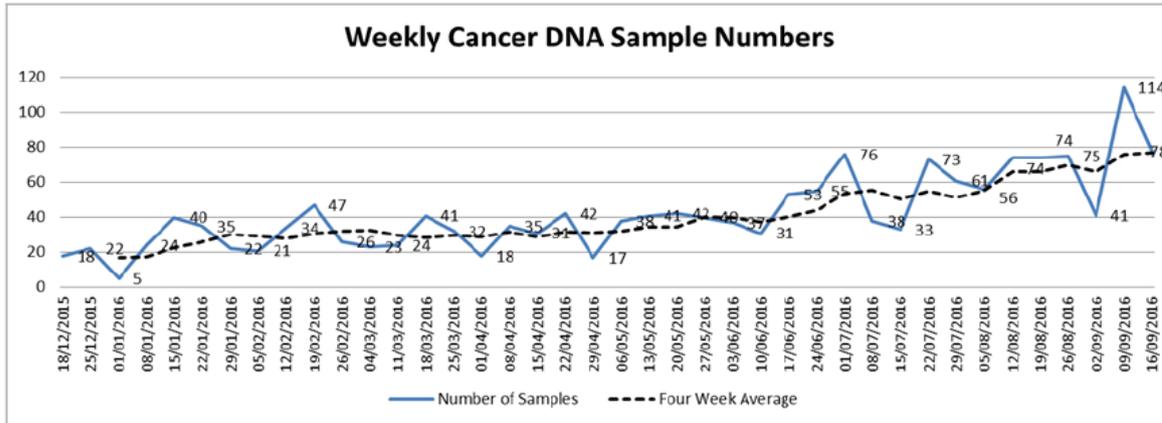
Recruitment has been slow to start but is gradually gaining momentum. By the end of August 2016, 34 participants had been recruited to six tumour sites open.



We will shortly be rolling out to our surrounding Trusts in a phased approach.

National progress

Nationally, 1,874 Cancer samples have been collected up until the week ending 16th September.



How to refer a patient for recruitment

The majority of the process is managed by the project office following patient identification:

1. Identify eligible patients at MDT
2. MDT co-ordinator notes eligible patients on MDT proforma which project office receive weekly
3. Clinical team mentions project to patient in clinic and provide leaflet *
4. Following discussion with patients in clinic, notify the project office if the patient is happy to be approached (rde-tr.SWGMC@nhs.net)

This can be done by emailing a copy of the clinic letter to the project office, or by emailing the following information:

The project office will provide teams with packs containing a project leaflet, patient information sheet and an introductory letter to give to patients when seen in clinic. If you don't have any of these packs please contact the project office on ext. 8177 or email rde-tr.swgmc@nhs.net

On-going process for project office and tissue banking team in Exeter (process yet to be determined at other hospitals)

- The project office will send a letter to the patient to confirm that as discussed in clinic, someone from the tissue banking team will approach them on the day of their pre-op appointment or surgery and if they agree to take part, consent will be taken and blood will be sampled, then a piece of their tumour collected during their normal cancer care will be donated to the project. Contact details of the project office will be provided to give patients an opportunity to let us know if they do not wish to be approached.
- The tissue bank team will arrange with theatre staff to collect tissue the tissue sample as soon as it has been excised and take this straight to histology for processing. **The tissue must not be put into formalin!**
- The histology team will select a piece of tissue to be used for the project which will be fresh frozen and the remainder will go through the standard clinical diagnostic pathway.
- DNA is extracted from the blood and tumour samples and this will be used for whole genome sequencing.

Getting started event

We are planning a go-live event to bring together the working groups (CNS / surgery / pathology / MDT reps etc). An invitation will be sent shortly. The event will cover:

1. Background to the project
2. Helping LDPs to identify their initial patient groups
3. 'Designing your pathways' - share learning from Exeter / other GMCs
4. Consent
5. Breakout - clinical leads, trainee angle, CNS, pathology, surgery (specimen procurement) etc.

Genomic Champions

Welcome to the recently appointed Genomics Champions for the South West, Tom Hanna (PHNT) and Frank McDermott (RDE)!



Tom and Frank are trainees who have opted to undertake a part-time secondment for 12 months. They will work with colleagues at Health Education South West and the South West NHS Genomic Medicine Centre to develop and deliver training in Genomic Medicine for their specialty. The Genomics Champions will support the 100,000 Genomes Project and work to embed genomic medicine within healthcare delivery.

Free masters in Genomic Medicine and CPPD modules

This MSc is a new programme developed by Health Education England and aligned with their vision to prepare for the legacy of the 100,000 Genomes Project. For more information please click [here](#) or contact Leigh Jackson the Education and Training Lead. Phone: 01392 408208. Email: leighjackson@nhs.net



South West NHS GMC has recognised the benefits of engagement with Cancer Nurse Specialists and has worked to look at how the job roles for nurses could be adapted to make provision for access to this MSc and the associated CPD modules.

In addition, for anyone wishing to gain an understanding of the consent process for this project there is a course on the Health Education England website which covers this: <https://www.genomiceducation.hee.nhs.uk/courses/courses/consent-ethics/>