

Impact of the NABCOP



Healthcare Quality Improvement Partnership

NATIONAL

Evidence of national improvements in the quality and outcomes of care

The NABCOP produced more timely results than in previous years, using the Rapid Cancer Registration Dataset (RCRD) made available by NCRAS in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. This data highlighted how services responded to the first wave of the COVID pandemic.

Rates of surgery among women aged 70+ years with early invasive breast cancer (EIBC) remain low by comparison with women aged 50–69 in England & Wales (75% versus 96%, respectively)*. For both the age groups, surgery rates increased by 1% in 2014-18* compared to 2014-17**. Furthermore, there was greater variation in rates of surgery among women with estrogen receptor (ER) positive EIBC compared with women with ER negative disease. The results suggest there were older women who were physically fit and who did not have surgery.

The NABCOP 'fitness assessment form' items are now collected as part of COSD V9.0[†] in English NHS trusts, since July 2020, with the aim to extend collection to Welsh Health Boards soon. This form is available at: <https://www.nabcop.org.uk/resources/fitness-assessment-tool/>

Among women diagnosed with non-screen detected early invasive breast cancer in Wales, the percentage who had triple diagnostic assessment (TDA) at their initial visit remains low but rose from 59% in 2018** to 65% across 2019 to July 2020*. For English NHS trusts, this information is now collected as a single data item - in COSD V9.0[†] - since July 2020.

*Reported in 2021 **Reported in 2020. Found at: www.nabcop.org.uk/reports-home/

[†]Cancer Outcomes and Services Dataset (COSD) is one of the main English data sources for the NABCOP's reports. V9.0 was implemented in July 2020.

SYSTEM

How the project supports policy development & management of the system

The NABCOP presented updates on the work of the audit at the following events:

- European Breast Cancer Conference, October 2020.
- Association of Breast Surgery Conference, May 2021.
- The Midlands and East Surgeons Study Day, July 2021.

To disseminate key messages and recommendations amongst the multidisciplinary audiences.

Three peer reviewed articles on treatment variation, factors influencing treatment, and surgical decisions for older women – were published by NABCOP team members from October 2020 to March 2021. Available at: <https://www.nabcop.org.uk/publications/journals>

The NABCOP reports on key data items in the CancerStats Level 2 reports and Quarterly updates (sent to Trusts to improve data completeness in England) – which include the NABCOP's fitness assessment form items. See: <https://www.nabcop.org.uk/resources/cancerstats-area/>

The NABCOP has provided a patient-level dataset of audit analysis to Public Health England (PHE) so that NHS breast cancer units are able to request and view their organisation's results at patient-level to make quality improvements as applicable.

The NABCOP, in collaboration with NCRAS, assessed the feasibility of linkage between the Primary Care Prescription Database (PCPD) and cancer registry data. The successful linkage, conducted for the first time, provided valuable added information on endocrine therapy. Reported on in 2021: <https://www.nabcop.org.uk/reports/nabcop-2021-annual-report/>

LOCAL

How the project stimulates quality improvement (QI)

The NABCOP increased their engagement with breast cancer teams via social media. [@NABCOP_News](https://twitter.com/NABCOP_News) Twitter followers have increased by 33%, to 393 (August 2021), since the launch of our previous report (July 2020).

The NABCOP Annual Report 2021 NHS Organisation Data Viewer, published on the website, provides tabular and graphical summaries for individual NHS organisations to view their local audit results. This is available at: <https://www.nabcop.org.uk/resources/nabcop-2021-annual-report-supplementary-materials/>

The NABCOP Local Action Plan 2021 helps local teams to set clear QI aims based on the audit's recommendations and develop plans for implementation. This is available at: <https://www.nabcop.org.uk/resources/nabcop-2021-annual-report-supplementary-materials/>

The NABCOP's results have been incorporated into the information packs for Care Quality Commission (CQC) inspectors when making visits. These visits help identify actions for local Quality Improvement, as appropriate.

Resources that give an introduction to QI and commonly used QI tools, have also been made available on the NABCOP Website. These are available at: <https://www.nabcop.org.uk/resources/quality-improvement-resources/>

PUBLIC

How the project is used by the public and the demand for it

The NABCOP's 'guide to the breast cancer pathway for older women', of particular relevance to women aged 70 and over, was developed in collaboration with patient and charity representatives. It aims to guide patients' discussion of key elements of their care and treatment with their wider breast care team, and clinical nurse specialist. <https://www.nabcop.org.uk/resources/the-nabcop-guide-to-the-breast-cancer-pathway-for-older-women/>

The audit's public and patients summary reports highlight issues related to the treatment of older women and provide links to additional resources. This is available at: <https://www.nabcop.org.uk/reports/nabcop-2021-public-and-patients-annual-report/>

Infographics that summarise the main report results for patients and the public were developed with patients and patient representatives. Available at: <https://www.nabcop.org.uk/reports/nabcop-2021-annual-report/>

Downloads of the [main report and public & patients reports](#) reached 283 in the month after publication (on 12 August 2021). Source: Google Analytics (unique events).

Downloads of the [Data Viewer](#) which people can use to see rates of outcomes for their local Trust or Health Board reached 99 in the month after publication (on 12 August 2021). Source: Google Analytics (unique events).