

Community Follow-Up

after a Germ Cell Tumour

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Follow-up after cancer treatment

Is

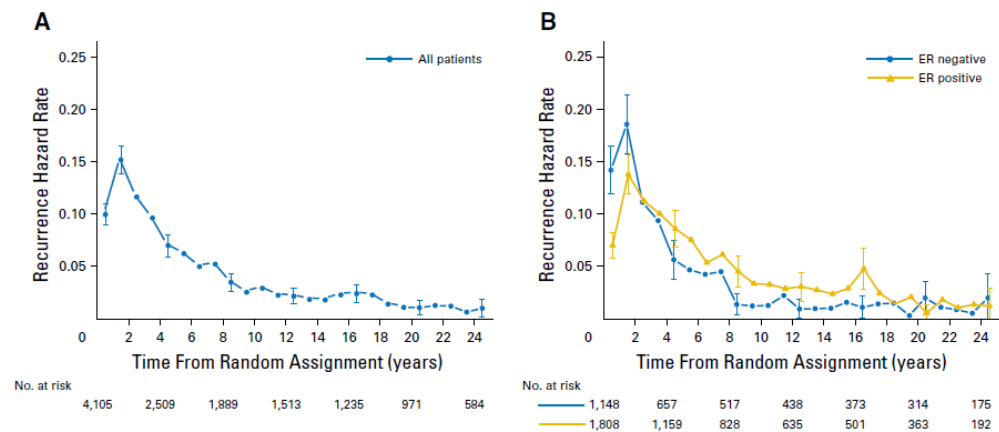
Continuing to provide clinical review for patients
after cancer treatment

in order to

- Intervene if the cancer changes
- Manage toxicities of treatment
- Support people living after cancer

What are the problems with follow-up?

- Cancer can return, for many years after treatment
 - The yield of follow-up to detect recurrence reduces over time
- Therefore, pragmatic decisions about how to schedule follow-up



Breast cancer recurrence over time
Colleoni et al January 19, 2016, doi: 10.1200/JCO.2015.62.3504

Post-treatment surveillance approaches are imperfect

- Recurrence risk is clinically defined – site, size, surgery, biology – but not precisely
- Symptom reports vary between patients
- Symptom interpretation varies between clinicians (e.g. by patience, skill and experience)
- Imaging and biomarkers vary greatly e.g. Scans, blood markers (PSA), LFTs, CTCs (leukaemia)
- Trade offs
 - Interval of assessments vs negative predictive value, equivocal findings, false-positive test findings etc

Patients may prefer to remain in the cancer system

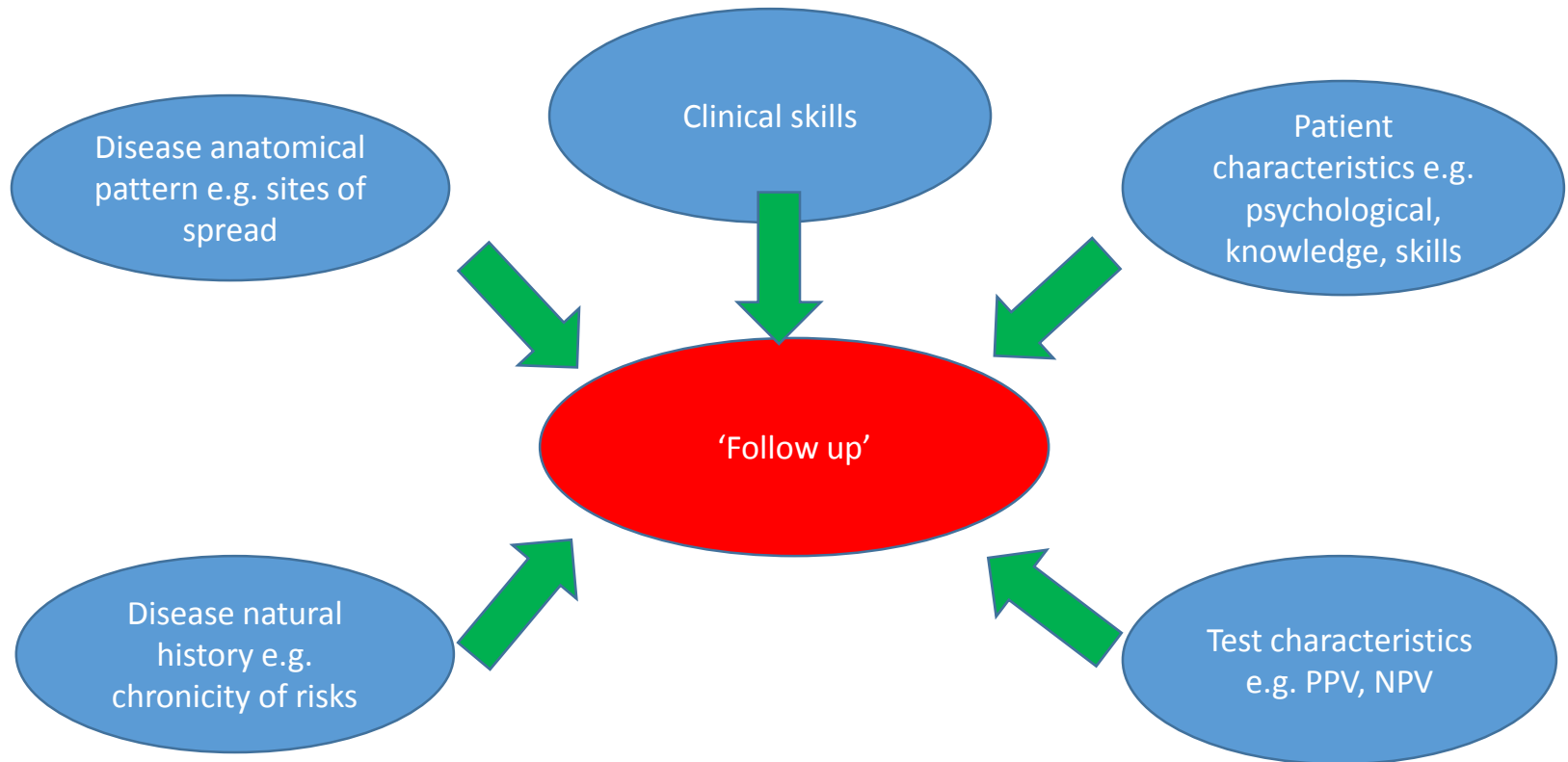
Health anxiety

Fear of recurrence

Trust in primary care systems

To optimise the management of any recurrence

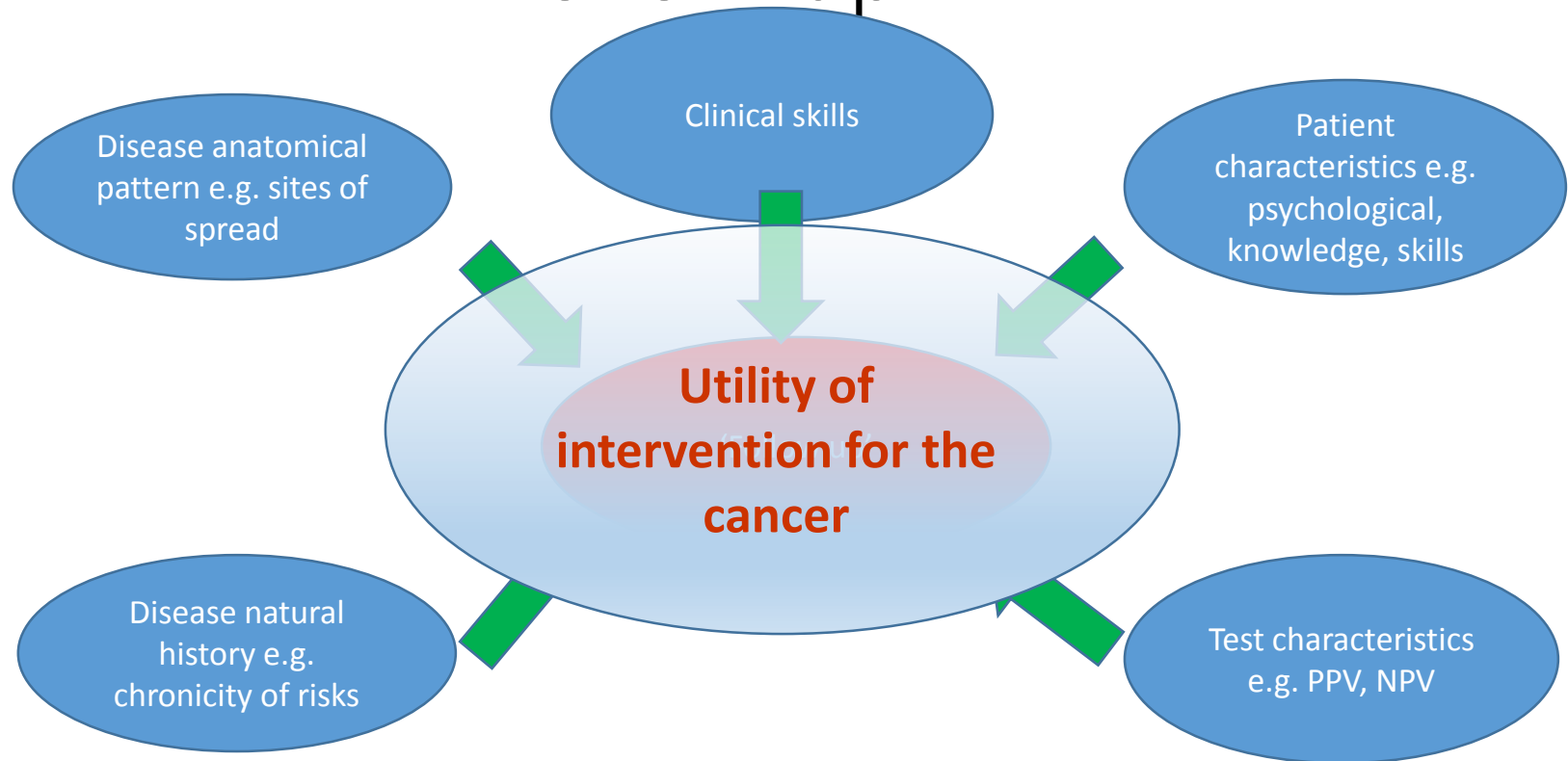
The nature of follow-up



In uncertainty about intervention

- Recurrence is often metastatic, but not always
- Metastatic return is usually incurable, but not always
 - Germ cell - odds of cure are high, although varying with the speed of the detection and the site of the recurrence

Factors determining the utility of clinical follow-up



Late effects of treatment

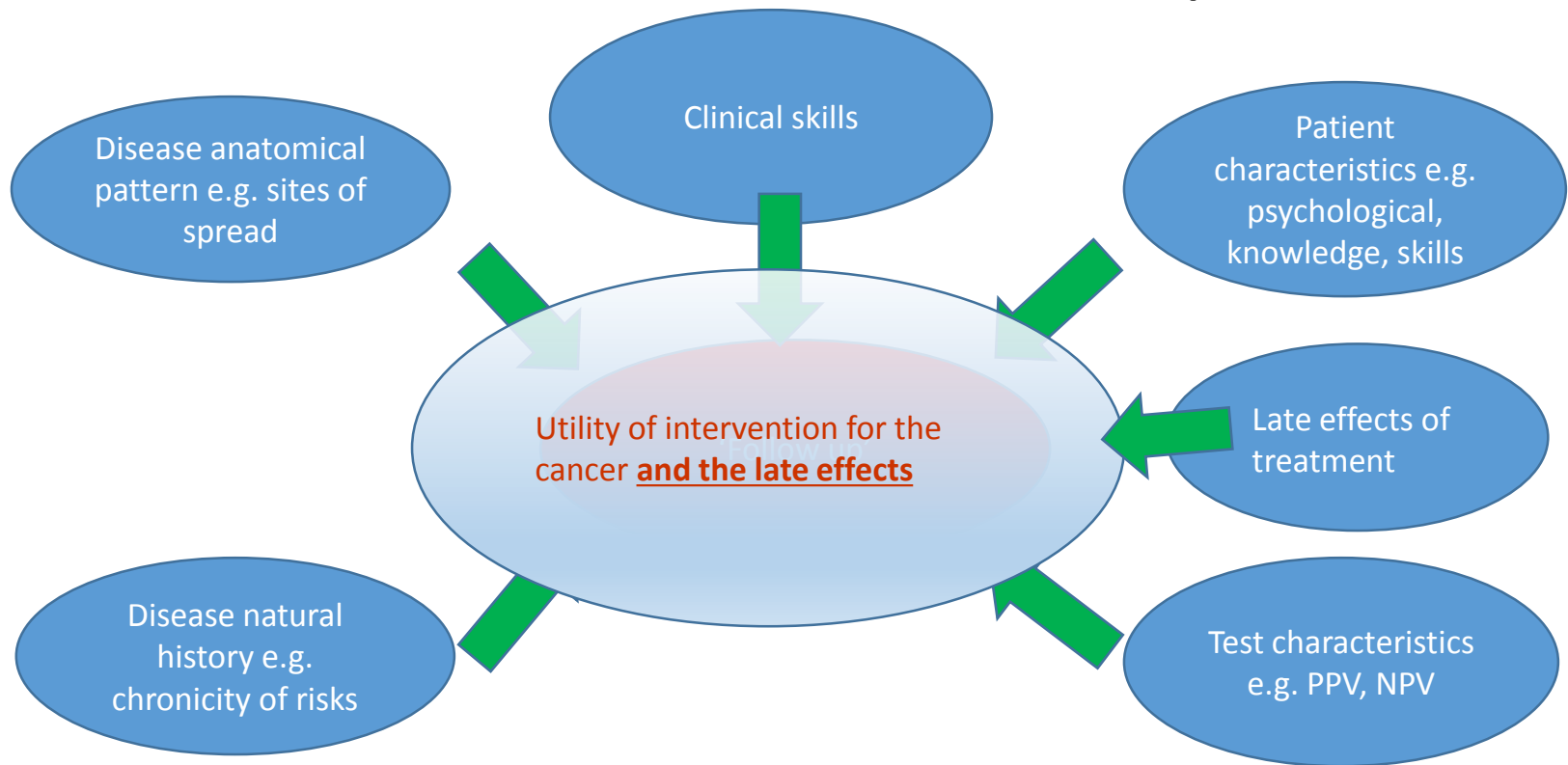
B) Psychological wellbeing

- 1408 Norwegian testicular cancer (TC) survivors - anxiety disorders remain significantly more prevalent than general population after 11 years ¹
- More so when younger
- Patients interpret everyday bodily symptoms as indicating serious disease, worry, seek clinical reassurance, BUT are made more anxious and more dependent upon follow-up by non-specific reassurance³.
- Contrasts with the approach taken for health anxiety in mental health settings.

Table 4. Adjusted Odds Ratio (OR) of Serious Psychological Distress (SPD) for Each Clinical and Sociodemographic Characteristic Among the Long-term Survivors of Adult-Onset Cancer

Variable	Sample Size ^a	SPD, % ^b	Adjusted OR (95% CI) ^c
Age at interview, y			
<45	578	10.7	5.6 (3.3-9.5)
45-64	1629	6.7	2.7 (1.8-4.0)
≥65	2429	3.2	1 [Reference]

The nature of follow-up



Follow-up after cancer is resource intensive

- 2.4 million NHS follow-up appointments in oncology in 2011/12 (HES online)
- Not evidence based in their planning, not optimised in their focus, delivered variably in quality
- Multiple purposes – recurrence, psychological care, physical late effects, broader ‘survivorship’ elements
 - Return to productive socially integrated lives, quality of life
 - Regain trust in some clinical systems after diagnostic pathways

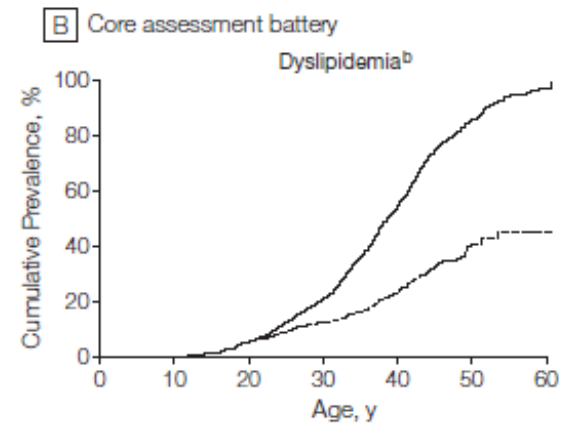
Models of follow-up care

- Traditional Vs shared-care Vs nurse-led Vs self-management Vs GP

Level	Treatment	Follow Up	Frequency
1	Surgery alone Low risk chemotherapy	Postal or telephone	1-3 years
2	Chemotherapy Low-dose cranial irradiation (<24 Gy)	Nurse-led or primary care	1-2 years
3	Radiotherapy (>24Gy) Megatherapy	Medically supervised LTFU clinic	1-2 yearly

Q: Are GPs well placed to run cancer follow-up?

- **A:** not at present
- But...they are seeing cancer survivors of all ages
 - 1157 Canadian survivors diagnosed before age 20¹
 - 97% saw at least 1 GP in a 3-year period
 - Primary care visits more likely once aged >20 years.
- GP care appears not be detecting the problems
 - Under-diagnosis by age 35 is substantial for asymptomatic disease such as dyslipidaemia, cardiac valvular disease, and hearing loss²
- But neither are the traditional models for some problems
 - Most second cancers in long-term TGCT survivors are self-detected interval events during regular oncology follow-up³



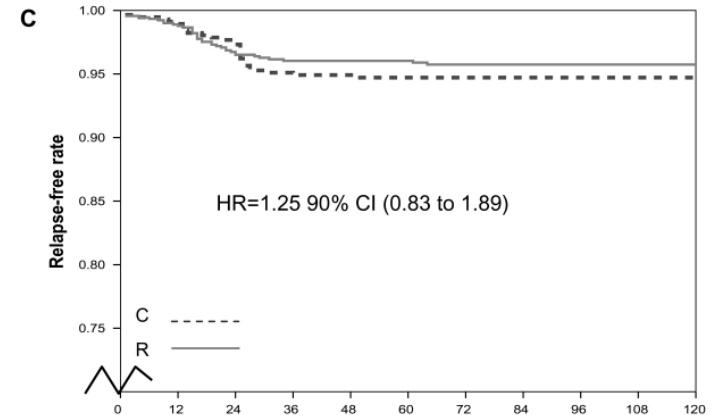
Summarise

- Surveillance is useful
- Scheduling is variable
- Tests are imperfect
- Patients and clinicians are imperfect
- Purposes need to embrace psychosocial and survivorship aspects as well as cancer status and toxicity
- Best models are not certain

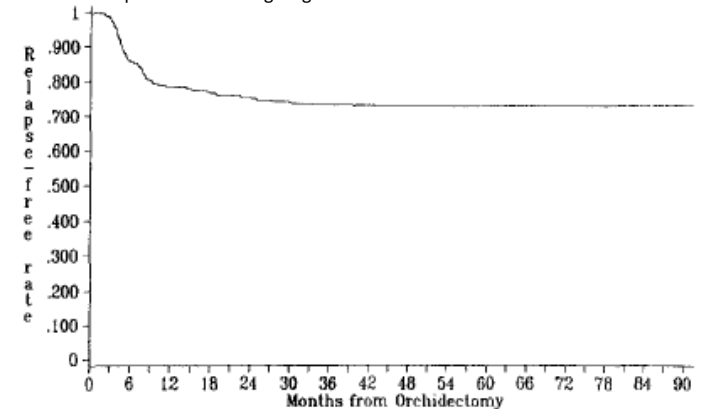
Germ cell tumour surveillance in Yorkshire

- Single regional oncology service across Yorkshire, travel up to 60 miles:
 - Surgery alone OR Surgery + chemotherapy/ Surgery+ chemotherapy+ radiotherapy
 - **Mediocre patient experience – 60 patients per week, 3 doctors, 2+ hour waits**
- Young, working/education/training
- Extensive use of surveillance in resected stage 1 disease
 - avoid unnecessary therapy
 - high stakes (up 50% risk of curable relapse)
- All surveillance types involve collection of:
 - Biomarkers – Very high sensitivity and specificity - alphaFP, betaHcG
 - Chest X-ray or CT
 - Clinical symptoms
- Surveillance for between 3 and 10 years
- Evidence
 - MRC dataset - mode & timing of detection of recurrence (1 - 3)
 - Flat curves for relapse after 5 years (1, 2)
- Characterised late effects
 - Second cancers, renal injury, IHD, anxiety
- **Work with PCOR group – Tracker for surveillance & Q-Tool for PRO capture**

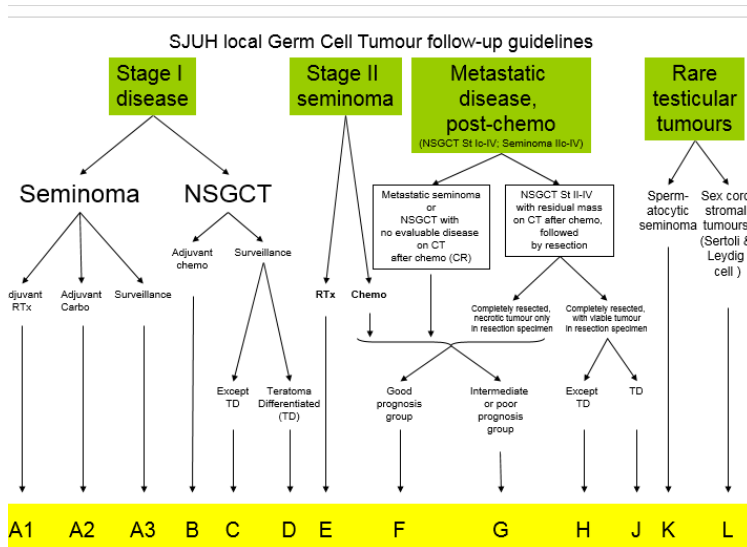
1. Relapse-free rate in chemotherapy vs radiotherapy-treated patients up to 10-years post-treatment for stage 1 seminoma testis



2. Overall relapse rate after stage 1 germ cell tumour of testis



Structured evidence-based follow-up



Copy germ cell Calculator v6 June 2011.xls [Compati]

FILE HOME INSERT PAGE LAYOUT FORMULAS DATA REVIEW VIEW

Paste Cut Copy Format Painter Clipboard Font Alignment Number

B7

Follow-up protocol for: Stage Im NSGCT after chemo: good prognosis metastatic tumours treated with chemo - all metastatic sen

Enter month of completion of most recent treatment (surgeon/ chemo) in red box below, in the format Jun-03

Jan-16

Patient name d o b

Hosp No.

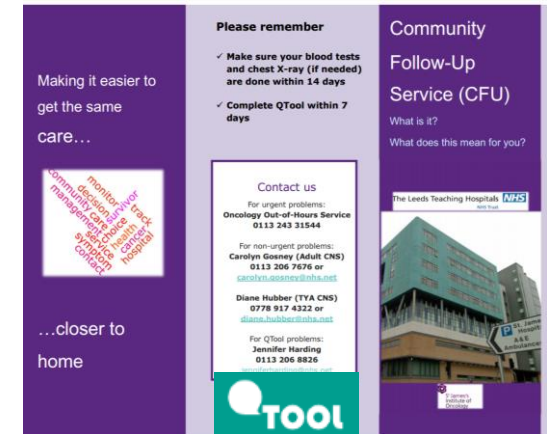
Interval (months) OPA date Investigations required

Interval (months)	OPA date	Investigations required
3	Apr-16	AFP, hCG, LDH, CXR
6	Jul-16	AFP, hCG, LDH, CT scan
9	Oct-16	AFP, hCG, LDH, CXR
12	Jan-17	AFP, hCG, LDH, CT scan
15	Apr-17	AFP, hCG, LDH, CXR
18	Jul-17	AFP, hCG, LDH, CXR

A1 A2 A3 B C D E F G H J K L M Template

Community Follow-Up

- Community Follow-up
 - Same intervals as for clinic, same tests
 - QTool instead of OPA Hx – broader (psychosocial and physical), consistently delivered
 - OPA face to face once per year or for CT results
 - Blood tests, X-rays - we provide test request cards
 - Care & test interpretation still specialist- many fewer OPA visits



Could we?

- Organise ourselves and the patients to have the **right tests** at the **right time** without the out-patient clinic to organise that in? → whole-system change
- **Estimate key symptoms** and **assess psychological well-being** and concerns using PROs online reliably compared to in clinics → professional change
- **Facilitate investigations** at **any** competent provider → system change
 - Flexibility where and when – GP, local hospital, supermarket
 - Often nearer home
- Identify the results and act upon them in a timely manner
 - **Communicate** this to the patient and involved clinicians → communication change

Without the patients coming to the clinic face to face (or at least much less often)?

Patients are open to change in services

- 4th year Medical Student Ravi Raja, 2011-12
- 33 patients over 2 weeks (39 approached) - all in Standard follow-up
 - 2/3 in favour of community follow-up in principle
 - No age effect
 - Leeds patients less in favour
 - Felt to reduce the time taken for clinic (travel + waiting)
 - Felt to reduce the impact upon work/education

Clinician consultation

- Might:
 - Encourage patients to take more responsibility for their tests, control of their health and self-manage
 - Self care education & health promotion necessary
- Enhance integrated care between Oncology, primary care and regional hospitals
- Needs:
 - Sufficient professional capacity, right skill-mix, IT linkage, education and training
 - Clear communication systems

Commissioner perspective

- Enthusiastic:

people with cancer come to cancer care right away, those no longer with cancer don't

- Principles:

- Multi-professional agreement
- Right professional @ right time

- Tariffs for different forms of follow-up including community if delivered by LTHT, based upon multi-disciplinary workload involved
- Explicit and systematic approach
- Supported with correspondence with GP surgeries about tariffs and clinical responsibility

System requirements: Q-Tool (PCOR group)

- To replace some of the face-to-face outpatient appointments
- Germ cell tumour bespoke set of questions for patients to answer:
 - Key symptoms, self examination
 - Psychological well-being, specific concerns
 - Time and place of undertaking tests (bloods and x-rays)

TOOL

Studies

TestesFollowup

Holistic Needs Assessment - General

Page 1

Distress_Thermometer

Page 2

Checklist

Checklist_Practical

Checklist_Family

Holistic Needs Assessment - General 2.1

Preview Questionnaire

See info...

QuestionsDependenciesScoringAlertsSettings

Page 1

Distress_Thermometer

First please select the number (0-10) that best describes how much the past week, including today, by clicking on the scale below. Then c

10

HIGH DISTRESS

9

8

7

How would you rate your overall health during the last week?

☐ Good

☐ Fair

☐ Poor

☐ Very Poor

How would you rate your overall health now, compared to the last time you told us about it?

☐ Much Better

☒ A little Better

☐ The same

☐ A little Worse

☐ Much Worse

Have you had back pain?

☐ No Back Pain

☐ Mild back pain, not needing medication

☐ moderate back pain, controlled with medication

☐ severe back pain, which medication does not control

How would you rate your back pain now, compared to the last time you told us about it?

☐ Much Better

☐ A little Better

☐ The same

☐ A little Worse

☒ Much Worse

Skip to page: 1 2 3 4 5 6

Administrator view

Patient view

System requirements: Tracker

- Relational database
- Linked to PPM1 for administrative and clinical data (+/-)
- Imports clinical data e.g. blood results, scan reports, Q-Tool responses
- Frequency and type of patient contact by treatment
 - e.g. follow-up schedule F with CT at 3 and 12 months from end of treatment
- Reminds clerical team by calendar of required activities
- Produces outputs – letters, (reminders, thank you, GP)

F

Follow-up protocol for: Stage Im NSGCT after chemo: good prognosis metastatic tumours treated with chemo - all metastatic ser

Enter month of completion of most recent treatment (surgery or chemo) in red box below, in the format Jun-03

Enter month

Internal (months)	OPA date	Investigations required
3	Apr-16	AFP, HCG, LDH, CR
6	Jul-16	AFP, HCG, LDH, CT scan
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18	Jul-17	AFP, HCG, LDH, CR

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20

A1 A2 A3 B C D E F G H J K L M Template

What we are doing

End of treatment:

1. Discuss options
2. Meet clerical team, check contact preferences
3. Give Q-Tool user name and password, intro to IT

Next appointment: nurse-led

1. Check understanding
2. Health promotion
3. Use of IT

Next appointments

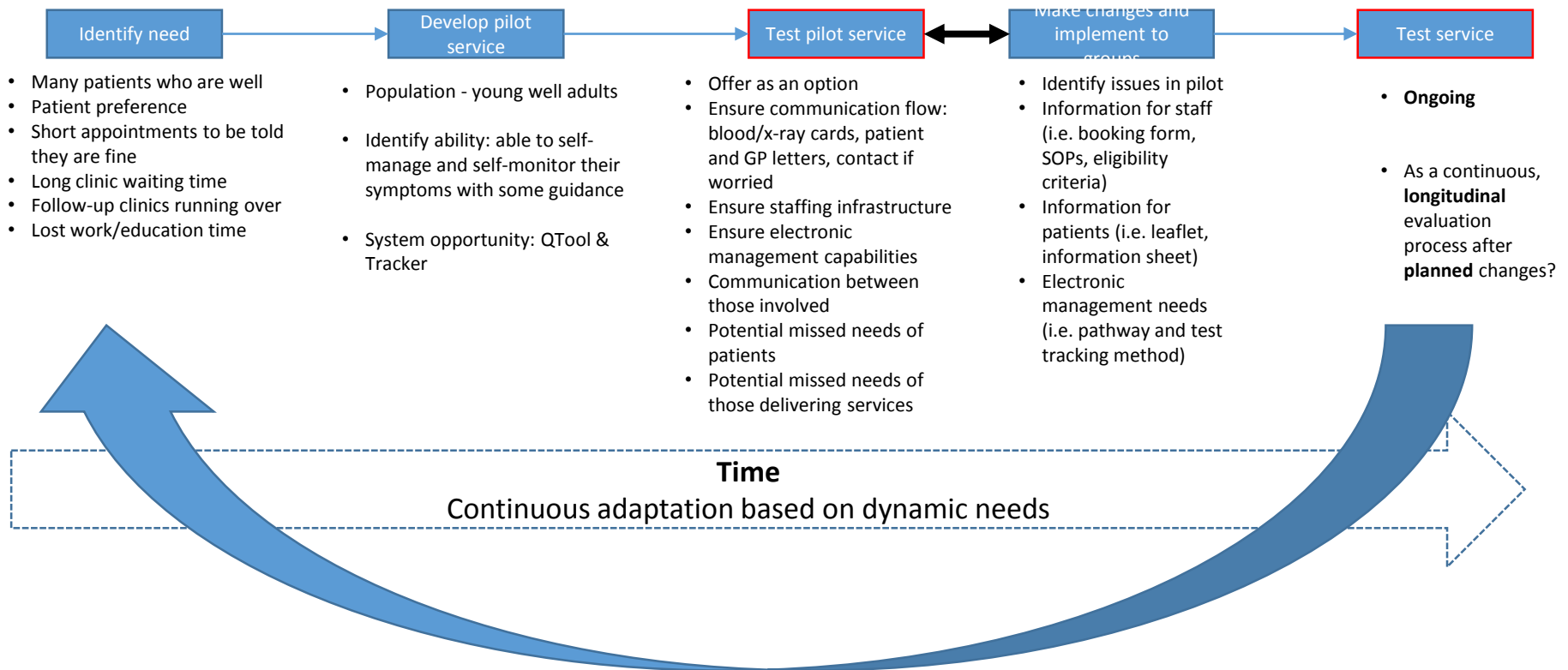
'Community' with minimum annual face-to-face

Clerical result collation and reminders

Clinical cross-check of collated results

Thank you letters, GP letters (populate patient record)

Implementing and Evaluating Service changes



Implementation testing - Preliminary data
(work in progress)

1. Is it feasible?

A. Participation*

- Uptake (sign up, decline, switch)

B. Safety*

- Timeliness and missing data for each test

C. Service comparison*:

- DNAs & Cancellations*

D. Financial and time costs*

2. Is it acceptable?

A. Information needed and provided ^*.

B. Satisfaction^*: communication, reassurance.

C. Satisfaction with software*: PPM, Tracker (staff), QTool^

D. Confidence in symptom management^*

E. Financial and time costs^*

3. Other barriers/facilitators*?

A. Patients: General health, distress, fatigue, concentration, health anxiety, cancer self-efficacy, illness perceptions

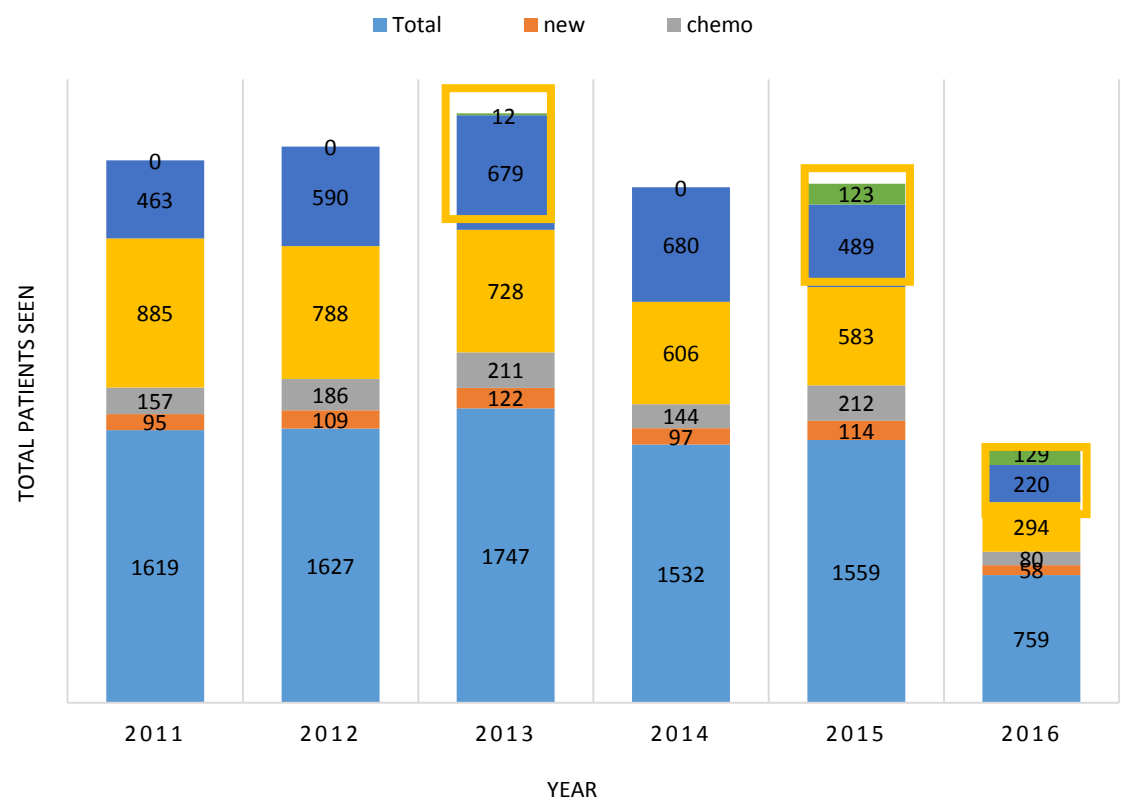
B. Staff: Job satisfaction

**Compare Community versus Standard follow-up*

^Compare staff and patient perceptions

The screenshot shows the 'Preview of Service evaluation B1' page of the QTool questionnaire. The header includes the QTool logo and user information: 'G.C.Lindner@nhs.uk @ LTHW | Change Password | Log Out'. A breadcrumb trail reads 'Go Back < Home < GCT Service Evaluation < Service evaluation B1'. A progress indicator shows 'Skip to page: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10' with 'Preview of Service evaluation B1' selected. The page is labeled 'Page 2 of 10'. The main heading is 'The Evaluation'. The text explains that the questionnaire evaluates perceptions and feelings towards germ cell tumour follow-up services, taking about 20 minutes. It asks for demographic information and preference regarding follow-up tests. A bold statement says: 'There are no right or wrong answers, so please try to be as honest as possible when responding to the questions. All the answers you provide will be stored in an anonymous format and will be kept completely confidential.' It also notes that answers can be skipped and the questionnaire can be stopped at any time. A thank you message follows: 'Thank you for helping us evaluate the germ cell tumour follow-up service.' Below this are several input fields: 'How old are you?' (text box), 'Sex' (dropdown menu), 'What is the last level of education you completed (e.g. secondary school, high school, college, university degree, etc.)?' (text box), 'What are the last 3 digits (or four, if from London) of your postcode?' (text box), 'What is your present marital status?' (dropdown menu), and 'Who do you live with?' (text box). The footer says 'Gfmg Consult'.

1A. Patients under review - Service uptake (up to July)



- In service January 2016: 134 patients
- In Service July 2016: 168 patients
- November 2016: 189 patients

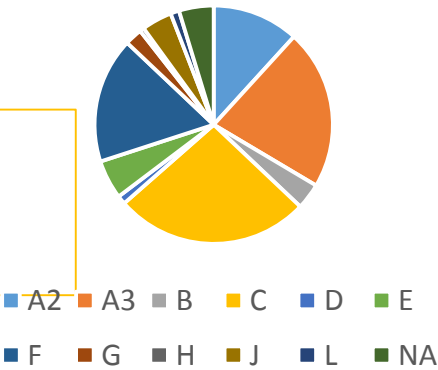
1A. Participation – Characteristics (up to July)

	2015 (12/12)	2016 (6/12)
T Patients	1559	759
N accepted CFU	123	168
N withdrawn = 18		
Reasons for withdrawal	NK Non-compliant Relapse Relocated Recruitment failure staff A/I GP issue	9 4 2 1 1 1

Factor (M/SD)	Community Follow Up (N=45)	Comments
Age	35.4 (9.42)	Includes very deprived areas and substantial disability
Sex	F=1, M=44	
Diagnosis/treatment finished	10.05.2010-15.06.2016	
Deprivation index (IMD)	Range: 792-32027	
Health and disability rank	Range: 1670-32424	

Ongoing data extraction
(N=120 out of 180)

- Total in Community Follow-up (July) = 168
 - F = 4, M=164



1B. Safety

Tests		Month																		Year				
J	OP/ Qtool	Last treatment		2	4	6	8	10	12	15	18	21	24	28	32	36	42	48	60	6	7	8	9	10
	Blood			2	4	6	8	10	12	15	18	21	24	28	32	36	42	48	60	6	7	8	9	10
	CXR				4		8				18				32		42	48	60	6	7	8	9	10
	CT					6			12				24			36		60						

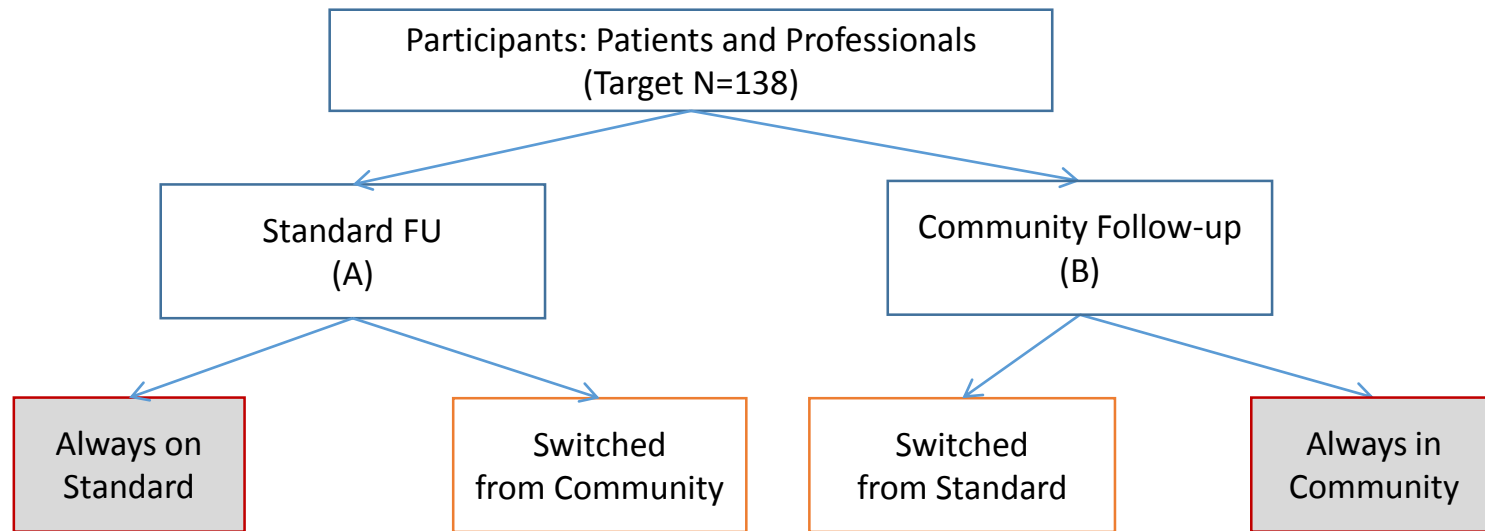
		Today																										
J	OP/ Qtool	Jul-14	Aug-14	Sep-14	Oct-14	Nov-14	Dec-14	0	Feb-15	0	May-15	Jul-15	Oct-15	Jan-16	Mar-16	Apr-16	Jul-16	Nov-16	Mar-17	Jul-17	Jan-18	Jul-18	Jul-19	Jul-20	Jul-21	Jul-22	Jul-23	Jul-24
	Blood	Jul-14	Aug-14	2	Oct-14	0	Dec-14	0	Feb-15	0	May-15	Jul-15	15	Jan-16	Mar-16	Apr-16	Jul-16	28	32	36	42	48	60	6	7	8	9	10
	CXR	Jul-14			Oct-14	4			Feb-15	8				Jan-16					32		42	48	60	6	7	8	9	10
	CT		1				Dec-14	6				12	Aug-15				24			36		60						

Entere
d CFU

1D. Objective costs per patient per pathway

	OP visits/blood	A1	A2	A3	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	J	K	L	M
		12	12	15	15	26	10	17	14	23	33	21	7	7	33
	CT scans	2	4	8*	3	3	3	2	4	6	5	6	1	3	3
	CXR's	11	9	10	5	13	2	16	11	13	14	11	2	3	12
	Years	5	5	5	5	5	3	10	5	10	10	10	3	3	10
Income (first and FU attendance)	Standard	1267					1076		1457						3647
	Community	1267					1076		1457						3647
Expense (staff, tests, IT, Overheads)	Standard	816					795		1168						4545
	Community	711					596		1047						4139
Margin	Standard	451					281		590						-899
	Community	556					480		410						-492

2. Acceptability testing and 3. Other barriers





- Questionnaires & Interviews to collect:


- **Recruitment : N= 64 participants since June 2016.**
- **So far data on 45**
 - 33 wanted to be included in communications with GPs
 - Q-Tool on time in over 95% of consultations
 - Health status of patients: 82 cases good, 14 cases fair

Ongoing collection & analyses:
Information needs
Information delivered
Satisfaction with communication
Confidence in service

Ongoing Service improvements

Clearly defined eligibility criteria to the service

Community Follow-Up Service (CFU)	
Invite 	DO NOT Invite 
1 First year post-surgery or chemotherapy	More than 1 year post-treatment
2 Access to computer with internet	No access to computer or internet
3 Low risk of recurrence (Paths A - F, K, L)	High risk of recurrence (Paths G – J, M)
4 Able to arrange blood tests, X-rays, and complete the online questionnaire (QTool)	Not able to arrange blood tests and X-rays closer to home
5 Express a direct interest and are eligible based on criteria above	Is not able to speak/understand English without an interpreter
6	If in CFU previously, and had more than 2 DNAs for any tests → Recall for standard follow-up to re-evaluate eligibility

To be completed by Doctor or Nurse		
Insert Sticky label or Name, DOB, and NHS#		
Doctor arranging follow-up	Please provide initials:	Date form completed: DD/MM/YYYY
Schedule (Please circle one, from A1 to M)	A1/ A2/ A3/ B/ C/ D/ E/ F/ G/ H/ J/ K/ L/ M	Date of last treatment: MM/YYYY
Next planned appointment (for nurse-led review and discussion of community follow-up)	Please provide date for appointment: MM/YYYY Next CT Date? DD/MM/YYYY Scan requested on ICE for planned date? Y/N	
Next planned face to face medical appointment (Either next CT result date or anniversary of last treatment, whichever first)	Please provide date: MM/YYYY	
Service coordinator informed? Y/N		
Include in GP Letter AND patient copy (please tick if included)	Up-to-date treatment summary with:	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Stage	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Risk group	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Pathological type	
	<input type="checkbox"/> All treatments used	
<input type="checkbox"/> Month and year of last treatment		
<input type="checkbox"/> Follow-up schedule		
Appointment schedule sheet:		
<input type="checkbox"/> In notes		
<input type="checkbox"/> With patient		
<input type="checkbox"/> Outline of prognosis		
<input type="checkbox"/> Comment on testicular self-examination		
To be completed by Service Coordinator		
Please tick if done:	<input type="checkbox"/> Patient consented to Service <input type="checkbox"/> Patient included on PPM and Tracker <input type="checkbox"/> GP Letter sent	

Clear method to notify clinical and administrative staff involved in service

Wider adoption

- Changes made
 - Breast
 - Prostate
- In progress
 - LTFU after childhood and AYA cancer
 - Sarcoma
- Elsewhere
 - Southampton – used commercial software, so got off to a fast start - that software was withdrawn

Wider (potential) implications in cancer

Collaborative across Secondary and Primary Care

Encourage collaboration within secondary care

e.g. who delivers follow-up? surgical or non-surgical services,
medical or nursing?

Risk-Stratification of follow-up

Have longitudinal PRO data

Include late effects detection and management once established