



The Christie

TOWARDS A FUTURE WITHOUT CANCER

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North West

Rectal Cancer Complete Response Registry

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Issue 2

Publication of OnCoRe Project

The success of the North West Rectal Cancer Complete Response Registry has resulted in the publication of “*Watch-and-wait approach versus surgical resection after chemo-radiotherapy for patients with rectal cancer (the OnCoRe project): a propensity-score matched cohort analysis*” in The Lancet Oncology. The paper was published in the February 2016 edition (Volume 17, Issue 2) - please find a copy of this article attached along with the newsletter.

Importantly, the findings concluded that a substantial proportion of patients with rectal cancer managed by watch and wait are able to avoid major surgery and permanent colostomy without the loss of oncological safety at 3 years. The success of this project would not have been possible without the hard work carried out by those from the 24 centres who contributed to the registry. We would like to offer our sincere thanks to all those involved with the project.



Patient Information Sheet

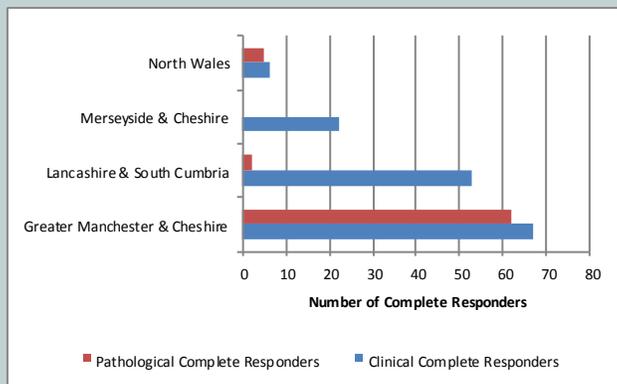


In addition to the Lancet paper, please find attached a Patient Information Sheet for distribution to rectal cancer patients who have experienced a Clinical Complete Response. This has been approved by the colorectal consultants and the patient information group at The Christie NHS Foundation trust. Please update this sheet with the individual contact and trust details before distributing to patients. If you have any feedback or recommendations for the information, please let us know using the contact details on the second page of this newsletter.

The Registry - Now and Looking Forward

To date, we have had 217 cases submitted to the Rectal Cancer Complete Response Registry. Of these, 148 are clinical complete responders on an 'active' watch and wait policy and the other 69 are those who have undergone surgery and found to have a pathological complete response.

In addition to these, we have had 96 patients submitted who had a complete response after receiving contact Papillion Radiotherapy at the Clatterbridge Cancer Centre. The data collected for these patients is to be analysed in the coming months.



The number of complete responders submitted by each Network

Although we have now completed the initial analysis, we are continuing to update the registry with new patients and will be carrying out further investigations in the future. **Please continue to send the details of any new Complete Response patients by sending the attached up-to-date proforma to the contact details on the following page.**

Steering committee

Professor Andrew Renehan,
Colorectal Surgeon, The Christie
NHS Foundation Trust &
University of Manchester

Dr Simon Gollins, Clinical
Oncologist, North Wales Cancer,
Treatment Centre

Dr Mark Saunders, Clinical
Oncologist, The Christie NHS
Foundation Trust

Mr Nigel Scott, Colorectal
Surgeon Royal Preston Hospital

Dr Shabbir Susnerwala, Clinical
Oncologist, Royal Preston
Hospital

Professor Arthur Sun Myint,
Clinical Oncologist, Clatterbridge
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Professor Sarah T O'Dwyer,
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Mr Andrew Evans, Colorectal
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News Coverage and Response to the OnCoRe Publication

The publication of the OnCoRe paper in the Lancet Oncology has resulted in numerous articles and responses from the media and professionals. Please see below for the details and links to these:

Manchester Evening News

The Manchester Evening News reported on the story on two occasions and focused on how the breakthrough will spare patients from invasive surgery. The second article featured an interview with Professor Andrew Renehan and discussed how the research will be extended across Europe.

The original article link - <http://www.manchestereveningnews.co.uk/news/greater-manchester-news/specialists-christie-hospital-make-major-10612342>

The second article link - <http://www.manchestereveningnews.co.uk/news/greater-manchester-news/breakthrough-cancer-research-christie-extended-10626075>



The Association of Coloproctology of Great Britain and Ireland

In January, The President of ACPGBI, Professor R J C Steele, published a newsletter on the outcomes of the study on the ACPGBI website. This stated that it provides a much needed evidence base to inform decision making for surgeons and patients. However, it also focused on the need for further investigation with longer follow up times - something that will be possible in the future thanks to the continuous updating of the registry.

<http://www.acpgbi.org.uk/news/announcements/is-a-watch-and-wait-policy-after-complete-response-to-radiochemotherapy-for-rectal-cancer-safe/>



BBC Radio Manchester featured a piece on the publication stating how the breakthrough will result in numerous rectal cancer patients being able to avoid major surgery.

Perez Commentary

Dr Rodrigo Oliva Perez (University of São Paulo School of Medicine) published a positive commentary to be published alongside the OnCoRe paper. This made the hopeful statement that the watch-and-wait approach will benefit a substantial proportion of patients as chemo-radiotherapy regimens improve and progressively increase the chances of a complete response to therapy.



BBC One North West broadcast a news story on the morning of 17/12/2015 covering how the study will result in fewer people needing a permanent colostomy.

The International Watch and Wait Database

The Champalimad Foundation in Lisbon (Portugal) and the European Registry of Cancer Care based in Leiden (The Netherlands) have initiated a project to collect data on Rectal Cancer Complete Responders from around the world. As agreed by the Steering Committee, we have contributed data collected within the North West Registry to this database. This international database has now collected information from over 500 patients who have experienced a clinical complete response from 14 countries throughout Europe and South America. The first analysis of this data is due to take place over the coming months - watch this space! For more information please see - <http://www.iwwd.org/>

