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| 1. | [Cancer fast track scheme 'could have saved thousands of lives if used properly'; Academic study concludes 2,500 patients died needlessly because GPs didn't make 'high-use' of urgent referral scheme](#doc_id_1) Independent.co.uk, October 27, 2015 Tuesday 11:53 AM GMT, HEALTH NEWS, 397 words, Jamie Merrill |

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| 2. | [Thousands of needless cancer deaths as GPs ignore guidelines](#doc_id_2) The Daily Telegraph (London), October 14, 2015 Wednesday, NEWS; Pg. 2, 417 words, Sarah Knapton |

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| 3. | [Cancer patients die after GPs fail to fast track appointments; HEALTH](#doc_id_3) i-Independent Print Ltd, October 14, 2015, NEWS; Pg. 5, 157 words, Jamie Merrill |

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| 4. | [GPs need to use cancer fast-track powers; IN BRIEF](#doc_id_4) Metro (UK), October 14, 2015 Wednesday, NEWS; Pg. 2, 84 words |

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| 5. | [Cancer fast track scheme 'could have saved thousands of lives if used properly'; Academic study concludes 2,500 patients died needlessly because GPs didn't make 'high-use' of urgent referral scheme](#doc_id_5) Independent.co.uk, October 13, 2015 Tuesday 10:55 PM GMT, HEALTH NEWS, 397 words, Jamie merrill |

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| 6. | [Thousands of cancer patients dying because GPs fail to refer for tests; Some GP practices are still failing to refer potential cancer patients for early tests and could be responsible for thousands of deaths](#doc_id_6) telegraph.co.uk, October 13, 2015 Tuesday 11:30 PM GMT, NEWS, 598 words, By Sarah Knapton Science Editor |

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Independent.co.uk

**October** 27, 2015 Tuesday 11:53 AM GMT

**Cancer fast track scheme 'could have saved thousands of lives if used properly';**

**Academic study concludes 2,500 patients died needlessly because GPs didn't make 'high-use' of urgent referral scheme**

**BYLINE:** Jamie Merrill

**SECTION:** HEALTH NEWS

**LENGTH:** 397 words

Almost 2,500 people could still be alive if GPs across the country had made better use of fast track appointments for suspected **cancer** patients, new research has revealed.

According to the study by academics at King's College London, thousands of **cancer** sufferers are needlessly dying in England because almost four in ten family doctors fail to use make proper use of an **urgent** **referral** **pathway** to ensure they see a **cancer** specialist within two weeks.

Read more

13 ways to prevent **cancer,** according to the experts

The **urgent** **referral** **pathway** for suspected **cancer** patients is a key part of the NHS strategy to improve **survival** rates from the illness, but critics says its use by GPs has varied considerably since it was introduced 15 years ago.

The study published in the

British Medical Journal

found that just one in six GP surgeries had a "high use" of the life-saving scheme, which resulted in a 4 per cent improvement in the **mortality** rate. In comparison surgeries with a low referral rate had a 7 per cent worse **mortality** rate.

Professor Henrik Moller, who led the study looking at patient data for more than 200,000 people and 8,000 GP surgeries, urged doctors to make more use of the scheme which enables early diagnosis and more effective treatment.

Read more

Antioxidants could increase risk of **cancer** spreading around the body

As a doctor, my job isn't to deny care to suspected **cancer** patients

5 warning signs that show you might have **cancer**

Taller people are more likely to develop **cancer,** study says

Almost half of **cancer** patients 'struggle to pay their bills'

Prof Moller said: "It is generally assumed that the more promptly a diagnosis of **cancer** is made, the better is the prognosis, because **cancer** detected at an earlier stage has better treatment options leading to improved **survival.**

"This assumption is supported by evidence that tumours can progress during the time taken to reach a diagnosis and start treatment. Observational studies have found an association between time to diagnosis and **mortality.**"

The research comes after a study published last month showed that the UK has the worst **survival** rate for **cancer** in western Europe, with rates a third lower than in Sweden.

**LOAD-DATE:** October 27, 2015

**LANGUAGE:** ENGLISH

**PUBLICATION-TYPE:** Newspaper; Web Publication

**JOURNAL-CODE:** WEBI

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The Daily Telegraph (London)

**October** 14, 2015 Wednesday

Edition 1;

National Edition

**Thousands of needless cancer deaths as GPs ignore guidelines**

**BYLINE:** Sarah Knapton

**SECTION:** NEWS; Pg. 2

**LENGTH:** 417 words

THOUSANDS of **cancer** patients are dying avoidably because GPs did not refer them for fast-track appointments, research suggests, amid fears that doctors are not complying with guidelines.

Almost 2,500 people might still be alive if family doctors had used a twoweek **urgent** **referral** **pathway**, a key part of the strategy to cut deaths in England, King's College London has calculated.

A study published in the British Medical Journal compared practices, their rates of urgent referrals and **survival** rates between 2009 and 2013.

It found just one in six surgeries had a high use of the initiative while those with the lowest referrals had death rates that were seven per cent higher than the best-performing practices.

In June, the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (Nice) issued new guidelines to help doctors assess 37 **cancers** so they could spot signs more easily and refer patients more quickly.

The new NHS **cancer** strategy promised an 80 per cent increase in tests for diseases.

But there are fears that doctors are still not using the pathway, with some being offered bonuses of thousands of pounds to reduce the number of **cancer** patients sent to hospital.

Research by Pulse magazine found that clinical commissioning groups in nine parts of the country were offering GP practices financial incentives to cut referrals, including those via the twoweek **cancer** pathway.

Professor Henrik Moller, of King's College London, urged doctors to urgently refer anyone they suspect of having **cancer,** to improve **survival** rates.

"Achieving an earlier diagnosis of **cancer** at a less advanced stage is a public concern and has become a widely adopted priority for healthcare systems," said Prof Moller.

"It is generally assumed that the more promptly a diagnosis of **cancer** is made, the better is the prognosis, because **cancer** detected at an earlier stage has better treatment options leading to improved **survival.**"

Using national records on **cancer** waiting times, diagnoses and deaths, the researchers analysed data for 215,284 **cancer** patients from 8,049 general practices in England who were diagnosed or first treated in 2009 and followed up to 2013.

David Cameron's plan for a sevenday NHS has been dealt a blow after the President of the Royal College of Physicians claimed it is doomed to fail without 38,000 extra doctors and more money.

Prof Jane Dacre warned the Prime Minister that the scheme was "Utopian" and said the NHS could collapse this winter under the strain of hospital admissions and low staff morale.

**LOAD-DATE:** October 14, 2015

**LANGUAGE:** ENGLISH

**PUBLICATION-TYPE:** Newspaper

**JOURNAL-CODE:** DTL

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i-Independent Print Ltd

**October** 14, 2015

First Edition

**Cancer patients die after GPs fail to fast track appointments;**

**HEALTH**

**BYLINE:** Jamie Merrill

**SECTION:** NEWS; Pg. 5

**LENGTH:** 157 words

Almost 2,500 people could still be alive if GPs across the country had made better use of fast-track appointments for suspected **cancer** patients, new research has revealed.

According to the study by academics at King's College London, thousands of **cancer** sufferers are needlessly dying in England because almost four in 10 family doctors fail to make proper use of an **urgent** **referral** **pathway** to ensure they see a **cancer** specialist within two weeks.

The **urgent** **referral** **pathway** for suspected **cancer** patients is a key part of the NHS strategy to improve **survival** rates from the illness, but critics says its use by GPs has varied considerably since it was introduced 15 years ago.

The study published in the BMJ found that just one in six GP surgeries had a "high use" of the life-saving scheme, which resulted in a 4 per cent improvement in the **mortality** rate.

In comparison surgeries with a low referral rate had a 7 per cent worse **mortality** rate.

**LOAD-DATE:** October 13, 2015

**LANGUAGE:** ENGLISH

**PUBLICATION-TYPE:** Newspaper

**JOURNAL-CODE:** III

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Metro (UK)

**October** 14, 2015 Wednesday

Edition 2;

National Edition

**GPs need to use cancer fast-track powers;**

**IN BRIEF**

**SECTION:** NEWS; Pg. 2

**LENGTH:** 84 words

THOUSANDS more **cancer** sufferers could have been saved if GPs had sent patients for special appointments within two weeks, research suggests.

Almost four in ten family doctors hardly use the '**urgent referral pathway' and mortality** rates in such practices were seven per cent above average, the study in the British Medical Journal found.

Prof Henrik Moller, of King's College London, said about 2,400 of the 215,284 people diagnosed with **cancer** in 2009 could have survived if GPs had used the fast track service.

**LOAD-DATE:** October 14, 2015

**LANGUAGE:** ENGLISH

**PUBLICATION-TYPE:** Newspaper

**JOURNAL-CODE:** MTR

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Independent.co.uk

**October** 13, 2015 Tuesday 10:55 PM GMT

**Cancer fast track scheme 'could have saved thousands of lives if used properly';**

**Academic study concludes 2,500 patients died needlessly because GPs didn't make 'high-use' of urgent referral scheme**

**BYLINE:** Jamie merrill

**SECTION:** HEALTH NEWS

**LENGTH:** 397 words

Almost 2,500 people could still be alive if GPs across the country had made better use of fast track appointments for suspected **cancer** patients, new research has revealed.

According to the study by academics at King's College London, thousands of **cancer** sufferers are needlessly dying in England because almost four in ten family doctors fail to use make proper use of an **urgent** **referral** **pathway** to ensure they see a **cancer** specialist within two weeks.

Read more

13 ways to prevent **cancer,** according to the experts

The **urgent** **referral** **pathway** for suspected **cancer** patients is a key part of the NHS strategy to improve **survival** rates from the illness, but critics says its use by GPs has varied considerably since it was introduced 15 years ago.

The study published in the

British Medical Journal

found that just one in six GP surgeries had a "high use" of the life-saving scheme, which resulted in a 4 per cent improvement in the **mortality** rate. In comparison surgeries with a low referral rate had a 7 per cent worse **mortality** rate.

Professor Henrik Moller, who led the study looking at patient data for more than 200,000 people and 8,000 GP surgeries, urged doctors to make more use of the scheme which enables early diagnosis and more effective treatment.

Read more

Antioxidants could increase the risk of **cancer** spreading around the bo

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5 warning signs that show you might have **cancer**

Taller people are more likely to develop **cancer,** study says

Almost half of **cancer** patients 'struggle to pay their bills'

Prof Moller said: "It is generally assumed that the more promptly a diagnosis of **cancer** is made, the better is the prognosis, because **cancer** detected at an earlier stage has better treatment options leading to improved **survival.**

"This assumption is supported by evidence that tumours can progress during the time taken to reach a diagnosis and start treatment. Observational studies have found an association between time to diagnosis and **mortality.**"

The research comes after a study published last month showed that the UK has the worst **survival** rate for **cancer** in western Europe, with rates a third lower than in Sweden.

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**PUBLICATION-TYPE:** Newspaper; Web Publication

**JOURNAL-CODE:** WEBI

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telegraph.co.uk

**October** 13, 2015 Tuesday 11:30 PM GMT

**Thousands of cancer patients dying because GPs fail to refer for tests;**

**Some GP practices are still failing to refer potential cancer patients for early tests and could be responsible for thousands of deaths**

**BYLINE:** By Sarah Knapton Science Editor

**SECTION:** NEWS

**LENGTH:** 598 words

Thousands of **cancer** patients are dying needlessly because GPs did not refer them for fast track appointments, new research suggests, amid fears that doctors are still not complying with guidelines.

Almost 2,500 people might still be alive if family doctors had used a two week **urgent** **referral** **pathway**, a key part of the strategy to cut deaths in England, Kings College London has calculated.

A study published in the British Medical Journal compared practices, their rates of urgent referrals and **survival** rates between 2009 and 2013.

It found just one in six surgeries had a high use of the initiative while those with the lowest referrals had death rates which were seven per cent higher than the best performing practices.

In June, the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (Nice) issued new guidelines to help doctors assessing 37 different **cancers** so they could spot the signs more easily and refer patients more quickly while the new NHS **cancer** strategy, promised an 80 per cent increase in tests for diseases

But there are fears that doctors are still not using the pathway, with some being offered bonuses of thousands of pounds to reduce the number of **cancer** patients sent to hospital.

Research undertaken by Pulse magazine published earlier this month found that CCGs in nine parts of the country were offering GP practices financial incentives to cut referrals, including those via the two week **cancer** pathway.

Professor Henrik Moller, of King's College London, urged doctors to urgently refer anyone they suspect of having **cancer** to improve **survival** rates. Early diagnosis of a disease nearly always means more effective treatment and better outcomes.

"Achieving an earlier diagnosis of **cancer** at a less advanced stage is a public concern and has become a widely adopted priority for healthcare systems," said Prof Moller.

"It is generally assumed that the more promptly a diagnosis of **cancer** is made, the better is the prognosis, because **cancer** detected at an earlier stage has better treatment options leading to improved **survival**.

"General practices that consistently have a low propensity to use urgent referrals could consider increasing the use of this pathway to improve the **survival** of their patients with **cancer."**

The **urgent** **referral** **pathway** was implemented in England in 2000, but its use among general practices varies considerably and its impact on **cancer survival** was, until now, unknown.

Using national records on **cancer** waiting times, diagnoses and deaths, the researchers analysed data for 215,284 **cancer** patients from 8,049 general practices in England who were diagnosed or first treated in 2009 and followed up to 2013.

A study published last month showed the UK has the worst **survival** rates for **cancer** in western Europe, with rates a third lower than in Sweden.

Prof Moller estimated an additional 2,400 patients from low referring practices might have been alive after the four year study if use of urgent referral had been higher.

Prof William Hamilton, of the University of Exeter, said fast track referral is one part of an improving picture of **cancer** diagnosis in the NHS, and agreed practices with a consistently low use of the two week system "should consider why this is so."

He said the study "adds further evidence to the **survival** and emergency admission figures, and all point in the same direction."

Prof Hamilton said: "It is better to develop **cancer** in the United Kingdom now than it was ten years ago - and improved diagnostic facilities are a part of the reason why. It may be even better in another ten years."

**LOAD-DATE:** October 13, 2015

**LANGUAGE:** ENGLISH

**PUBLICATION-TYPE:** Newspaper; Web Publication

**JOURNAL-CODE:** WEBDTNS

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