



NATCAN

National Cancer Audit
Collaborating Centre

NATCAN, Clinical Effectiveness Unit

Royal College of Surgeons of England
38-43 Lincoln's Inn Fields
London WC2A 3PE

E: NATCAN@RCSeng.ac.uk

W: www.natcan.org.uk

 [NATCAN_News](#)

NATCAN Newsletter, Autumn 2023

Who is our new clinical director?

We are delighted to share that [Dr Ajay Aggarwal](#) has been appointed our [new Clinical Director](#) following a rigorous selection process. Ajay, a Consultant Clinical Oncologist at Guy's & St Thomas' NHS Trust and an Associate Professor at LSHTM is a passionate advocate for driving improvements in the quality of NHS cancer services across the disease spectrum, from diagnosis to treatment and longer-term survivorship.

As Clinical Director Ajay will play an important role in shaping NATCAN's strategy, ensuring effective engagement in cancer service performance assessment, methodological development, and quality improvement initiatives. Ajay's research has greatly influenced policy discussions around cancer care affordability and the value of new technologies in cancer medicine.



We're excited to collaborate with Ajay in his new role, which officially starts on 1st October 2023.

What progress have we made 12 months in?

As we come to the end of the first year, we reflect on the huge strides we have taken in setting up NATCAN and are thankful for your support!

- ✔ Establishing our [governance structures](#) including our [Executive Team](#) and [NATCAN Board](#)
- ✔ Building new Audit teams for [ovarian](#), [pancreatic](#), [non-Hodgkin lymphoma](#), [kidney](#), and [primary & metastatic breast cancer](#) centred on strong clinical – methodological partnerships
- ✔ Developing close links with professional and patient stakeholder groups, including patient charities during the set-up of Audit Clinical Reference Groups (CRGs)
- ✔ Launching [our website](#)

- ✔ Applying for routine, national cancer data collaborating closely with the National Disease Registration Service and Wales Cancer Network
- ✔ Welcoming existing audits in [prostate](#), [bowel](#), [oesophago-gastric](#) cancer to NATCAN
- ✔ Completing the scoping exercise for each Audit, working closely with stakeholders including patients

What next for NATCAN?

Scoping documents identifying each Audit's key [Quality Improvement](#) priority areas will be published in November, following submission to HQIP and NHS England in late September, alongside our first NATCAN Progress Report.

In year two, you can look forward to seeing each Audit's performance indicators, reported in a quarterly web-based dashboard and State of the Nation report published in September 2024.

Want to find out more?

Take a look at our [FAQs](#).

Sign up to our [mailing list](#) & follow us on [twitter](#).

Join our team!

We are recruiting for Senior Project Managers. Find out more and [apply](#).

